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USSR TO PRESENT DRAFT MISSILE TREATY IN GENEVA

AU271155 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Geneva, April 27 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union is to present Monday a draft treaty on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe to U.S. negotiators here, Soviet sources said. The sources gave no details of the contents of the draft treaty, saying only that it is a "compromise text".

Sources close to the U.S. negotiating team said the question was whether the Soviet Union has agreed to discuss a single treaty including both medium and short-range nuclear missiles. American disarmament experts in Geneva also want to see how far the Soviet side is prepared to go on the issue of verification of a treaty, the sources added.

Details of the Soviet proposals may emerge Tuesday, when the acting head of the Soviet delegation, Aleksey Obukhunov, is due to hold a press conference. [passage omitted]

WHITE HOUSE 'CAUTION' ON EUROMISSILES PERCEIVED

PM231245 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

["IZVESTIYA Press Service" report: "The White House: Consultations in Progress"]

[Text] Back from a 10-day Easter holiday which he spent at his ranch in California, President Reagan has begun a series of consultations with congressional leaders. The subject of the consultations are the results of the recent visit by George Shultz, secretary of state, to Moscow and the prospects of reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union on nuclear missiles in Europe.

The President has already had a meeting in the White House with leaders of the Republican Party and for Wednesday, 22 April, he had a meeting lined up with both Republicans and Democrats. A great deal depends on the stand taken by the latter: Enjoying a majority not only in the House of Representatives but also in the Senate, they in fact hold the key to ratifying any possible agreement. According to UPI, in organizing the consultations the President "would like to enlist the support of both parties" in the question of Euromissiles.

And what is the attitude of the White House itself? There is no plain answer. Reagan himself has said that he is "optimistic but realistic" regarding the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union. He has also said that "there are still a great many issues to be worked out." When asked whether an agreement on Euromissiles is possible this year, Reagan said that he would not like to hazard a guess. Statements like these have compelled the REUTER correspondent in Washington to reach the conclusion that "a note of caution has been introduced to the mood of enthusiasm that was evident among members of the administration after Shultz' return from Moscow."

This note of caution is being intensified by certain remarks made by Shultz himself and also by Republican and Democratic leaders in the Senate. It is reported that, when present at Reagan's meeting with Republican leaders, the secretary of state told them that "major problems relating to verification" of the implementation of a potential accord "are still unresolved." In their turn, Robert Dole, Republican leader in the Senate, and Robert Byrd, leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, have made it clear that they would like to retain a number of nuclear arms in Europe.

According to Dole, "We need some nuclear arms in Europe. These arms pose no threat to peace. They preserve it." And Byrd has cautioned the administration against "rushing into concluding an agreement" that he claimed, could lead to a reduction in NATO's defense capability and a split in the North Atlantic Alliance.

A different viewpoint was put forward by Republican Congressman Richard Cheney, who was a member of the U.S. parliamentary delegation that recently visited the USSR. "We have a multitude of nuclear arms in Europe," he said, noting that "even if the idea of a zero option for medium-range missiles is adopted, our potential will still be considerable."

Reagan on INF Prospects

OW250456 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1115 GMT 24 Apr 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] The whole world today lives in hope that, due to initiatives and the flexibility of Soviet foreign policies, the question of the arms race may finally be solved. The position of our side is obvious. Now the matter rests with the United States. Therefore, special attention is being paid to the statements and remarks of the representatives of the U.S. Administration and above all, of course, the head of the White House, Reagan.

The U.S. President made a statement in connection with the beginning of the scheduled round of talks in Geneva. Although a number of central issues must still be resolved and there is much to be discussed at the talks, the statement says, the prospects of reaching an agreement on INF have improved.

Speaking on a television program, George Shultz, too, noted a number of breakthroughs on the question of operational and tactical missiles. At the same time however, he felt that it was necessary to note that even in the case of an agreement being reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination of medium-range missiles, the United States would continue to maintain an imposing threat -- as he put it -- with its nuclear presence in Europe. He undoubtedly had in mind the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed on aircraft carriers and on submarines and battlefield nuclear arms and even strategic nuclear arsenals on the territory of the United States itself.

This ambiguous position naturally causes concern among the Americans who fully understand the necessity to end the arms race. Influential U.S. arms control experts held a news conference on this issue. The former U.S. head of the delegation to the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe, [name indistinct] said: Those people who aim their criticisms at the new Soviet proposals are, in my opinion, deliberately forgetting the proposal made by the U.S. President in 1981, the so-called zero option.

All this points supposedly to the fact that the West Europeans now are deliberately being forced to speak out officially against the impending and reasonable agreement on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

'TOP PRIORITY' ON EUROMISSILES, DISARMAMENT

LD252143 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 24 Apr 87

["Top Priority" hosted by Pavel Kuznetsov, Radio Moscow observer, with Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov, both of the Moscow-based United States of America and Canada Institute]

[Excerpts] [Kuznetsov] How do you do, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to "Top Priority." I am Pavel Kuznetsov, your host. Together with me in the studio on our weekly panel discussion are Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov of the Moscow-based United States of America and Canada Institute. As talks resumed in Geneva on medium-range missiles a major obstacle to an INF accord seems to be misgivings and squabbles within the NATO concerning what to do if both medium-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles are eliminated. Here in this country we understand the desire of the American administration to consult with its allies but we also believe that these consultations should not be a barrier to an agreement. Well, it is in sight, it may be close at hand, but having it in sight is not the same as being 100 percent sure that we will have it. What is it that the American allies fear? Who would like to set the ball rolling?

[Bogdanov] Yes, I agree with you, Pavel, that it's the natural desire of the American side to consult their allies. It's a very normal practice and I believe that if we were in the same situation we would have done the same. But there is another problem, not the consultations as such. I see two problems, or maybe three problems. Number one problem is what is the reality behind those consultations? What for they need them? [sentence as heard] As a formal, you know, step to inform their allies about the outcome of talks in Moscow it's OK.

[Kuznetsov] It was already done by Mr Shultz in Brussels.

[Bogdanov] It was already done by Mr Shultz in Brussels. Number two: To find out their opinion about the proposals, it's very normal and it's OK, too. But there is a third moment which worries me really. You have a number of obstacles, you know, from NATO allies, not all NATO allies but some NATO allies, but rather most important allies, and you have some obstacles within the administration, American administration, and from some important, you know, political figures outside the administration and what worries me... [sentence as heard]

[Kuznetsov] Would you name some of them?

[Bogdanov] Oh yes, I can name former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, General Scowcroft, [name indistinct].

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Congressman Aspin.

[Bogdanov] Congressman Aspin, some other people, and, Pavel, what worries me is that it's kind of alliance, unholy by the way alliance, which has been created or about to be created, you know, against that very serious move in the arms control business. You never know, you know, with the American domestic politics or European politics what will come out of that alliance. You have very clearly, a cut, or if you like, a division within the ranks of the Western, you know, alliance. That's maybe [chuckles], that's a very rare occasion when we are not joyful about that, we are upset by that.

Maybe that's the rare case when we would like to have quite an accord between the USA and their allies, but you have a division. And what worries me -- that lack of logic in the arguments which have been thrown on the table by the Western allies about our proposals. They create an impression, maybe for themselves, I don't know, that Europe becomes nuclearless, that if we destroy INF, a short-range, tactical battlefield, Europe is naked.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, we're coming to that, professor.

[Bogdanov] You know, I just would like to touch upon it because that's, I believe that's very, we have a number of counterarguments but it so looks like very artificial, you know, set of arguments aimed at one thing by, at any price to save nukes in Europe. That's what worries me.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, when some experts and some American allies say that a nonnuclear Europe is, would be actually more of a risk, more of a threat than while it is peppered with nuclear arms. They seem to forget to ignore the presence of thousands of battlefield weapons, like bombs which could be delivered by nuclear-capable aircraft then mines, shells and so on and so forth. Could you comment on that? Why are they so vehement against the elimination of missiles in Europe, both medium-range and shorter-range?

[Plekhanov] I think the Europeans have not yet come to grips with the change in realities of world politics and European politics in particular. I think what worries them is not so much the explosive power of the nuclear weapons that NATO or the Warsaw Pact have. What worries them is the appearance that the United States is turning away from Europe and, to some Europeans, that means that well, you know, how can we deal with the Soviet Union when the United States is looking the other way, because the nuclear presence of the United States has for decades served for the Europeans as a kind of a reassurance that in case there is something, if there is some Soviet threat, quote unquote, then the Americans are there.

[Kuznetsov] Excuse me for interrupting you at this moment, but isn't the presence of some 300,000 American GI's in Western Europe a guarantee against any onslaught on those babes in the wood?

[Plekhanov] Well, well of course, of course. And then there are so many arguments against that. It's just the argument, this idea that the United States, you know, even if you imagined that there is a threat from the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union might attack Western Europe out of the blue, which is ridiculous. It's a nonissue. But still in politics myths play a very important role. Of course the GI's are there and then the -- Britain and France have their own nuclear weapons and a lot of them, by the way, and they're quite, quite capable of turning Europe into a pile of ashes, radioactive ashes.

But then, you know, it's not just nuclear weapons. For the Soviet Union the elimination of nuclear weapons from Europe is just a first step toward turning that place into a more peaceful and less burdened with armaments, because we are for drastically reducing the levels of conventional arms in such a formula which would satisfy both sides, which eliminate any asymmetries whatsoever. Not only that but withdrawing the offensive weapons of both sides away from each other, creating in the center of Europe such a situation where neither side would be able to make an attack against the othere. [words indistinct]

[Bogdanov] Surprise, surprise!

[Kuznetsov] How many, how many tactical or battlefield weapons, nuclear weapons are there in Europe, about, about, how many hundreds, several thousand?

[Plekhanov] I think 3,600 or something like that.

[Bogdanov] But in any case, you know, we have very precise...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] We're talking about the elimination of some 300 warheads, or, or?

[Bogdanov] No, no, no. We have very precise figures, you know. In case we are lucky enough to strike a deal on INF and short range, then Europe will be still left with 4,600 nuclear warheads of different types, including aircraft carriers, mines, artillery shells, and so on and so on.

[Kuznetsov] Including the British and French forces or?

[Bogdanov] That I don't know. I believe it's only, only, you know, what is within the NATO alliance without France. That's my guess. I don't know exactly. And we, they are talking and they have in view only American, you know, nuclear capabilities, of, of, reducing only 250 nuclear warheads. So they're left with plenty, plenty, but in that case -- and I'm absolutely sure that within the headquarters, NATO headquarters, they're absolutely aware of the real numbers with what they are left and they know the reality -- then my question is if it is so, why they are so fearful, if you like? I think I know the reason, too.

[Plekhanov] I would like to go back to this backwardness of thinking. They still, the people who are afraid of this INF deal are the people who still believe that you can provide for security, for national security, by means of building up military power -- that traditional approach. And, but I think that this old view will be superseded by a more sophisticated, more realistic view, that the only way you can provide for peace in Europe is on a joint basis, on the basis of joint agreements, joint formulas for international security worked out by East and West, and this INF agreement could be an important first step to this.

[Kuznetsov] Now please tell me how can nuclear weapons serve as a deterrent when everybody knows that a detonation of a single nuclear warhead or device would lead to an escalating exchange of strikes and counterstrikes. Nobody ever said that it can be controlled. What are they so fearful about then?

[Plekhanov] I wish we'd had Henry Kissinger in our program so that he could answer this question, because it's a, I, I think the question is, the answer is so self-evident that even, even a detonation of high-power explosives which are nonnuclear, a nonnuclear military engagement in Europe would already mean... [words indistinct]

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Yes, we talked about that on our previous program...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] But it's common sense.

[Kuznetsov] ...because of the huge amount of atomic nuclear power plants.

[Plekhanov] Two hundred, two hundred atomic power plants.

[Kuznetsov] There's hardly a single Western official who would refuse to admit that the Soviet Union did meet the Western concerns halfway and that we have, in fact, incorporated some of their proposals and offers made in the past into our new offer on INF. Well, why are they so much against what they themselves proposed, say 2, 3, 4 years ago?

[Bogdanov] You know, there is a lot of irony in all that and I believe that our side has a right to say that we have been dealing for the last decades with the Western bluff, I'm sorry to say [laughs].

[Kuznetsov] And we called that bluff now?

[Bogdanov] And we called that bluff because now they don't take your yes for an answer. What really surprises me very much how they're not sure in themselves that they can sleep well only with nuclear mine under their pillow, even at the price that they can be blown up any minute, any minute. It means that their mind is so much poisoned by nuclear factors that it's really high time to deal with that cancer which is going to kill all of us. I see two problems, you know. One is honesty and the other one is dishonesty. I believe that we may have, and of course, we have, a number of people in the West who genuinely believe in the nuclear factor as a deterrent factor, but at the same time I believe that the majority of those who (?claim) for nukes, they're dishonest people. They have self-interest in all that, if you like, material interest, they are busy, been busy with that for that last 40 years, supplying, you know, the political leadership with the ideas of how to use nukes, they are leaning on that, that is their, that is their, you know, comfortable living. And that is what I call dishonesty.

[Kuznetsov] Let me for a moment turn away from the issue of INF and take up another subject which I believe is very much now to be of much importance. Last Wednesday the American Physical Society issued a thick report concerning the prospects of building the so-called directed energy and particle beam weapons which are seen as the crucial components of SDI and the report is extremely pessimistic about whether the whole SDI project will work. It will take at least a decade and billions and billions of dollars in research to determine whether the project is feasible. So my question is I don't understand how a sound policy, present-day policy or any policy can be built on something that's technically uncontrollable, unknown, not feasible, and I'm talking about the attempts of this administration to put all its political eggs into this SDI basket.

[Plekhanov] Well there have been cases like that in history. For instances, in the fifties the United States spent billions of dollars on trying to build an atomic plane, an atomic bomber, atom-powered, with a reactor-powered engine. The idea was that such a bomber could cruise for days and weeks around the globe and be able to bomb the Soviet Union whenever the United States would think it necessary. People believed in that very seriously and they even trained a crew to spend weeks on the plane and they even produced a menu for the crew which, for the stuff that they would eat.

[Bogdanov] And that was, I'm sorry, that was supported by, by an administration. [passage omitted]

[Kuznetsov] But what, what, what worries me is that, well so what, this is is the line of SDI supporters. So what, let this SDI be a project, a long-term project, let it be on the horizon for many years to come. So what's wrong about it?

[Plekhanov] Well I think if the United States does want to, to waste its best minds, waste its talent, its technical know-how on such a project it's up to the United States. I know for sure that we're not going to repeat the... [words indistinct]

[Bogdanov, interrupting] I don't understand why we should care for American money. If they're so rich let them waste it. [words indistinct]

[Kuznetsov] The problem is not that simple. We will not sit idle and watch that research go on. This is what I'm driving at.

[Plekhanov] Right, but we will not duplicate that. Our response, as Gorbachev said several times, our response will be cheaper, simpler and more [word indistinct] than that.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, but that still will be a response in terms of perhaps more weapons built. There will be less, less trust and it will be more suspicious.

[Bogdanov] Let's call it, let's call it what is it. It's an arms, arms race spiral.

[Kuznetgsov] I don't think the United States can have it both ways. I mean keep investing in the SDI project and seeking a healthier climate.

[Plekhanov] That's right. I think that, I think the SDI is, is entering very stormy waters because the more research is carried out in those labs the more clear it becomes that this is a boondoggle, and I hope that the process will go (?flat).

[Bogdanov] Let me, let me look at that from the other angle, you know. The American side, at least some responsible representatives of the American administration accuse us that we already have all that. Now, we've been telling them, you know, on the highest possible level that there is no bit of truth in that. Now, if you look at this kind of report how we can have that if it's impossible to have? [chuckles] [words indistinct] How we can have all that, you know Pavel? That's my question.

[Kuznetsov] As time is running out on us I'd like to go back to the INF issue and according to the latest reports administration officials are impatient with the allies' misgivings. This in my view is an indication that the White House would like to get an arms accord with the Soviet Union. Do you share this point of view?

[Bogdanov] You know, I do share this point of view but I would like to say, to comment a little bit, you know. What they have among themselves that is their family business. Let's come beyond all that. We have a historical opportunity for the first time in the post world war period to get rid of existing nuclear weapons.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] The whole class of them.

[Bogdanov] With, whole class of them. That's more important than any allies' consultations, quarrels within the administration, and again let's come beyond that.

[Kuznetsov] Thank you very much. We've come to the end of "Top Priority." I am Pavel Kuznetsov, your host signing off till next week at the same time and on the same wavelength. Goodbye.

WARSAW PACT ALLIES APPROVE GORBACHEV INITIATIVES

LD251747 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 Apr (TASS) -- Over the last few days the leadership of the allied member states of the Warsaw Pact organization was informed in detail of the content of recent talks in Moscow with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

There was a detailed conversation on this issue in Moscow between M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State, who warmly supported the whole range of Soviet initiatives aimed at limiting and subsequently eliminating weapons of mass destruction, reducing armed forces and weapons in Europe, and, on the whole, improving the international climate.

Special representatives of the Soviet leadership went to Berlin, Prague, Sofia, Budapest, and Bucharest.

Conversations that were held and took place in an atmosphere of frankness [otkrovennost] and cordiality showed that the leadership of the fraternal socialist countries fully approves and warmly supports the new major initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and proposed in talks with the U.S. secretary of state on key issues of nuclear disarmament, as well as the general line of the USSR, which combines firm advocacy of the legitimate interests of the allied countries with energetic and innovative efforts to improve the international situation and an important component of it -- Soviet-U.S. relations.

The senior leaders of the fraternal socialist states delivered special statements on the results of the consultations with the Soviet representatives.

E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, stressed in particular that the GDR supports wholly and completely the new initiatives on all key issues relating to arms limitations and disarmament put forward in Prague and Moscow by M.S. Gorbachev. Immediately concluding an agreement on scrapping Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, a way toward which is provided by the Soviet proposals, he stressed, would be the first and exceedingly important step that would realistically begin the process of halting the nuclear arms race and reducing nuclear weapons. Right now, after the USSR has displayed readiness to go a long way to meet the United States and its West European allies also on issues relating to operational and tactical missiles with a range of 500 to 1000 km, absolutely all doubts have been removed regarding the workability of the "zero solution" on INF in Europe put forward by the USSR. The GDR, E. Honecker stated, resolutely opposes attempts by NATO to respond to the Soviet proposal with plans for "upgrading arms" and creating a nuclear potential in Western Europe that represents a qualitatively new threat to GDR security. Having stressed the importance of the strictest verification [kontol] measures, E. Honecker pointed out that the territory of the GDR will not remain outside these measures.

G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, noted that the package of Soviet proposals put forward in Prague and developed in the course of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow opens up a realistic path toward reducing the level of military confrontation on our continent and meets the vital interests of the Czechoslovak people and all European states.

He singled out the great significance of the Soviet proposal for strict verification [kontrol] of compliance with the relevant agreements. Monitoring [kontrol] on the basis of reciprocity would be carried out in line with this on CSSR territory as well. G. Husak pointed out that the CSSR fully supports these new initiatives and will facilities their implementation. In this context the resolve of the Czechoslavak side was stressed to actively continue to implement the proposal to create a nuclear weapons-free corridor in Central Europe.

T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian Council of State, expressed the full support of the Bulgarian communists and all the country's working people for the constructive and dynamic peace policies of the CPSU and the Soviet state and also expressed sincere thanks for the up-to-the minute and deeply interesting information provided on behalf of the Soviet leadership.

N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, welcomed the initiatives and proposals of the Soviet Union and M.S. Gorbachev on questions concerning the conclusion of an agreement on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and also on the complete elimination of operational and tactical missiles in Europe. He stressed the need to intensify the struggle of the peoples and all progressive and antiwar forces to end the arms race, to provide effective measures for disarmament and primarily nuclear disarmament, and to create a climate of trust and broad international cooperation.

The Soviet initiatives were received with full understanding and support in the Hungarian People's Republic. In the assessment of the Hungarian comrades, positive advances have now taken shape in the international situation under the influence of the new line in the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the socialist community.

The exchange of opinions that has been carried out on central issues of world development at its present crucial stage serves as yet further vivid evidence of the fraternal solidarity of the socialist countries and of their unity and cohesion in the cause of uncompromising struggle against the military threat and of laying down the foundations of a firm and just system of all-embracing security.

PACT WORKING GROUP DISCUSSES CONVENTIONAL ARMS

LD241632 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The Warsaw Treaty working group of experts on issues of reducing the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe held a session in Budapest on April 22-23.

The experts considered progress in implementing the Budapest Appeal of the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee in the light of the discussion of these issues at the Vienna CSCE meeting, consultations between representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries in Vienna and bilateral contacts with NATO states, neutral and non-aligned European countries.

Views were exchanged on how to speed up the beginning of talks on the reduction of the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD261709 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 26 Apr 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Vitaliy Vladimirovich Zhurkin, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and deputy director of the United States of America and Canada Institute; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, political observer; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, all-union radio commentator]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrades. It's been a busy week in international affairs, but the events we want to place in the foreground are the visit to Moscow of Comrade Jaruzelski, the leader of the Polish People's Republic; Comrade Ligachev's visit to Hungary; and the subject of mutual relations among the fraternal socialist countries.

We have repeatedly emphasized that the Soviet Union's foreign policy gives priority to the development of friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries. That line is clearly traceable in the activities of our party and of our state since the April plenum. It finds vivid expression in the decisions of the 27th party congress, and it can be justifiably stated that we've been very active lately in giving new meaning to the policy of friendship and cooperation with socialist countries. One sign of this is that during Comrade Jaruzelski's visit to Moscow, a declaration was signed on Soiet-Polish cooperation in the fields of ideology, science, and culture. This is something new in the development of relations among fraternal socialist countries, and it's interesting in that it touches on the spiritual sphere of our contacts.

[Zhurkin] Well, that's right, Viktor Nikolayevich, because the spiritual is not something intangible. All these exalted concepts -- friendship, cooperation, interaction -- carry a definite material load. This is a prerequisite both for political ties and for joint economic enterprise. But what I'd like to concentrate on is the process of restructuring in socialist international relations which is now steadily gathering speed, and is indeed bringing new meaning to relations among socialist partners.

Where can this process of restructuring be seen? One is struck, of course, by the fact that the visits, the exchange of views and the meetings, both bilateral and multilateral, have been intensified. Simply in the quantitative sense, there are more of these meetings going on. But it's a question not just of quantity but also of the quality of those relations. The fact is, after all, that the objective state of things is such that, of course, the main responsibility for the destiny of the socialist community rests with the Soviet Union, and this determines the Soviet Union's place in the world socialist system. But we stress that the Soviet Union, for all its experience, is also learning intensively from our socialist friends, and this emphasis certainly does introduce new qualities: This is something that was clearly stated and concretely expressed during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia. And this motif is very clearly present in the joint Soviet-Polish declaration. The same theme is now being heard during Comrade Ligachev's visit to Hungary.

[Levin] Here are specific examples that can be quoted: Comrade Ligachev said directly that there's much in Hungary that attracts our attention: above all, the achievements of agriculture and the high saturation of the market with consumer goods, the competitiveness of a wide range of industrial products. In other words, we have plenty to learn from our Hungarian comrades, just as we ourselves too have rich assets.

[Shishlin] Yes. Well, continuing that theme, I want to say where these new qualities are being manifested. Take the economic sphere: There, new forms of cooperation are now emerging. These include joint enterprises; they include the refining of the international socialist division of labor, the deepening of that division of labor. They also include the fact that the principle of having an interest in each other's successes really does prompt us to open new directions of cooperation; and those processes of restructuring that are under way in our country also embrace mutual relations among the socialist countries. And it must be said that the processes of restructuring as such are being creatively assimilated by our friends -- taking into account, naturally, the concrete conditions in which our socialist partners operate.

[Levin] Nikolay Vladimirovich, I'd like to draw attention to another aspect of this dynamic process. Two years have passed since the April Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee in 1985. What new things over these 2 years have contributed to the activities of the socialist community in the sphere of foreign policy? First, of course, they've brought a heightened dynamism. And I think that in the context of the unity of a general political stance in the international arena, the individual face of each of the socialist states is coming into view very clearly and ever more distinctly. If we recall, say, the Stockholm conference on measures to strengthen security and cooperation in Europe: Virtually every one of the socialist countries participating made its own proposals on various specific matters, and they added up to an extensive and detailed program that made it possible to bring the conference to a successful conclusion.

Or remember the Vienna meeting, which developed the General European process: Practically every one of the countries of the socialist community submitted concrete proposals of its own -- on economic cooperation, on cooperation in protecting the environment, on information science and so on and so forth. It seems to me that when we say that each country contributes much that is new in the economic sphere and in the social relations development sphere to the common fund of the socialist community, we ought, of course, to also mention the contribution to the general activities of the socialist community in the field of foreign policy.

[Shishlin] I agree entirely, because each socialist country is, indeed, special and unique in what it can do where foreign affairs and foreign policy are concerned. And while each clearly represents the interests of its own country, the national interests of its own country, on the international scene, the socialist countries have now learned, and are continuing to learn, to combine those national interests harmoniously. And this harmony in the foreign policy moves of the socialist countries, this coordination of their part in foreign affairs, will, of course, give each socialist country a more prominent voice. And I think that the very interesting processes that are taking place in international politics are actually, in some degree, derived from this very dynamism and vigor of socialist foreign policy which has become a veritable hallmark of the last 2 years.

[Levin] To that one must, of course, add that all the radical and fundamental questions of the foreign policy of the socialist countries are very carefully coordinated; and this applies primarily to one crucial problem that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are trying to solve, together with the Western countries insofar as it's a bilateral matter: the problem of eliminating the U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles.

Here I want to direct the special attention of our listeners to what Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has said: That the Soviet leadership has consulted the leaders of the countries of our alliance on the whole range of these important problems, and obtained their full support. Why am I drawing attention to this?

After his talks in Moscow, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz attempted, in his public statement, to represent the matter like this: that we have to consult with our allies; we have to get their opinions, whereas it was not the custom, supposedly, for the Soviet Union and the socialist countries to act in that way. But this was a typical attempt to cast a shadow over the principles of Soviet foreign policy and over the principles of socialist international relations. And it is very appropriate that Mikhail Sergeyevich should have issued this reminder that these are coordinated actions.

[Zhurkin] I think that at present, U.S. policy is really muddled. On the one hand, there are elements of disagreement with the allies; on the other, I think there's also a large element of sheer political gambling, in an attempt to get something from the Soviet Union by appealing to various external factors, notably the allies. And, indeed, Shultz and U.S. diplomacy are having a hard time of it, because they're under pressure from Soviet foreign policy initiatives. U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, a fierce enemy of the Soviet Union, recently published an article in the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE in which he said, with very great displeasure, that in these matters the Soviet leadership is distinguished by two traits: patience and an iron will. And Weinberger has no liking at all either for one or the other.

[Levin] And these are qualities that are strongly evident in our proposals for solving the problems of arms limitation in Europe. And notice this, comrades: We are consistently, and, at the same time, very firmly and resolutely seeking to solve the questions posed by the Western side; and we are submitting proposals that open the way to untying all the knots.

In a speech on 21 April, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev detailed our position on questions of European policy and on questions of arms limitation in Europe. As this is a very important proposal, let me remind you of it: First, we would abolish within the next 5 years all the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, while retaining only 100 warheads for such missiles in the Asian part of the USSR and the same number on the territory of the United States. Second, we would at the same time abolish the Soviet and U.S. operational and tactical missiles in Europe and hold talks on such missiles in the Eastern part of our country and on the territory of the United States. Third, we would set up a very strict system of verification [kontrol] to check the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by both sides, and this would include on-site inspection.

On 23 April, the group on medium-range missiles at the Soviet-U.S. talks resumed discussions on these problems. We are fully determined to promote, now, at this present round of talks, the drawing up of accords on the medium-range missile problem. In particular, you will remember that when we extracted the problem of medium-range missiles from the package at the talks on nuclear and space weapons, the Americans said: Let's bring together the problem of medium-range missiles with the problem of operational and tactical missiles. And we have now agreed to tackle these problems in parallel, because what we want is to really reach an agreement -- really reach agreement.

Of course, I agree that Shultz needs to consult his allies, but you have quite rightly remarked, Vitaliy Vladimirovich, that behind the screen of consultations, attempts are very often made to avoid answering the questions we have raised. Brent Scowcroft recently let slip that the U.S. Administration acted very stupidly in 1981 in offering the zero option, since, he said, it's now very difficult for the Americans to refuse the zero option even though in reality it does not suit them at all.

Again, the Supreme commander of NATO forces, Rogers -- who is still fully active, though about to retire -- says nuclear weapons in Europe must not be abolished, that this must not be allowed to happen.

And very quietly, he is once again pressing his theory of a limited nuclear war. He said, we can't -- that is, NATO can't -- renounce inflicting a first nuclear strike in retaliation for a conventional attack by Soviet forces.

But at the same time, Tom Wicker has written sensibly in THE NEW YORK TIMES that no right-thinking person can take upon himself the responsibility of being first to use nuclear weapons, since this would inevitably cause an escalation of the use of nuclear weapons, and that would be a disaster. There cannot be a limited nuclear war -- that much is absolutely clear. But the fact that this subject, to which life has already given the answers, is being discussed at all is an indication that the progress of Soviet-U.S. talks is very far from straightforward: It is by no means easy to persuade the United States to conclude agreements that would not undermine in the least degree the interests of the security of the United States, or of the Soviet Union, or of NATO, or of the Warsaw Pact Organization -- that is, the equality here, equality of security, is obvious, but nevertheless, as we know, the talks are proceeding with great difficulty.

[Zhurkin] Viktor Nikolayevich, at the moment we are revolving around one question, which seems to me to be central, and to which, unfortunately, nobody has an answer: Will there after all be an agreement this year or not? At a time when, of course, as a result of the Soviet Union's enterprising approach, underpinned by support from the entire socialist community, things are progressing a little, we have, all the same, absolutely no firm conviction that that question will be successfully resolved.

Incidentally, the irony here also lies in the fact that U.S. politicians and the U.S. press have written a great deal about President Reagan realistically concluding an agreement this year. This is because some time around the end of the year, the election campaign will begin in the United States and, in general, there is no question of any major political or international steps being taken during that period -- certainly judging by past experience.

However, if time is in such short supply -- and evidently it is -- why is it that as soon as things draw close to the possibility of an accord, the United States puts forward new conditions and surrounds that agreement with various new details? One might think that the time restrictions would be a stimulus to quickly find solutions to one, two, or three issues, but not to increase this number to infinity. And among other issues looming on the horizon is always that of reducing conventional arms and armed forces. Moreover, the United States and, in general, many West Europen leaders are pretending that they know nothing about the existence of last year's Budapest proposals by the Warsaw Pact countries for a radical reduction of both sides' armed forces by 500,000 -- that is, by one-quarter -- sometime around the beginning of the 1990's, and for extremely radical reductions of conventional arms.

[Shishlin] At any rate, our proposals have, of course, caused a strong intellectual ferment....

[Zhurkin, interrupting] Without a doubt.

[Shishlin] And moreover, an intellectual ferment that has drawn in the most varied political circles and the most varied political strata in literally every Western country and every NATO country. And this is happening in the United States as well. It was, for example, rather nice to hear that the U.S. Congress, as we know, refused to allocated an additional $500 million to the SDI program; in essence, the Congress has unequivocally advocated adherence to the SALT-II treaty by the United States. Congress voted for a whole range of such, on the whole, fairly sensible decisions, including... [changes thought] in essence, a majority in Congress now supports an end to nuclear tests and the introduction of strict limits on nuclear tests.

On the other hand, as Viktor Nikolayevich mentioned, the U.S. political elite, those who set the tone in the present U.S. Administration, are, of course, actually attempting to pile up all sorts of obstacles in the way to an agreement. And although the United States, including President Reagan, has given a very positive assessment of the meeting held in Moscow between Comrade Gorbachev and Shultz, there were, after all, not only pluses in that meeting but obvious minuses as well, in the U.S. stance -- for example, on a 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive weapons. In Reykjavik they discussed and agreed on a 5-year period; in Moscow, Shultz stated that a 7-year period is needed. They discussed and negotiated about not breaking the ABM Treaty for 10 years, with each side taking such an obligation upon itself; in Moscow, Shultz spoke about that obligation being for 7 years only -- that is, it is being reduced by 3 years, although it is precisely a reinforcement of the ABM Treaty regime that is particularly important at the moment. Thus, for the moment there are many shadows in the U.S. stance.

But I would like to take up the point mentioned by Vitaliy Vladimirovich about there being very little time now set aside for working out an agreement -- very little time -- and that, realistically speaking, if there is no agreement in 1987, then we will have to consider that it could then materialize only 2 or 3 years later. But still, one cannot write off the possibility -- one cannot write off the possibility.

[Levin] Nor does one want to.

[Shishlin] Right. I would stick my neck out and say that there is, approximately, a 60 percent chance that an accord will be reached after all, but this leaves a 40 percent chance that an agreement might not be worked out.

[Levin] Nikolay Vladimirovich, I am perhaps inclined to see your forecast as a fairly optimistic one, after all 60:40 gives a definite chance. But it seems to me that probably one can indeed count on that for the additional reason that the need to restructure international relations has become a very imperious command of our age -- very imperious. And, after all, this concerns all problems. It would, of course, be absolutely incorrect, profoundly incorrect, to talk of resolving all the problems now facing mankind. Even in these arms limitation issues I think it is more expedient to proceed in sequence, step-by-step. However, there are other problems, too, which are also awaiting solutions and which cannot by put off forever. One of these is the Near East problem, which now, in connection with the visit to the USSR by Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, has become very prominent.

[Shishlin] The Near East conflict has been dragging on for decades now, and the situation there is, of course, getting no better. It is getting worse and worse, more and more explosive, and more and more alarming. It seems to me that Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the USSR has again and again revealed certain imperatives regarding that problem; first and foremost, the need to strengthen the unity of the Arab peoples themselves. This concerns all the Arab states, including, of course, the Arab people of Palestine, which is in need of the creation of its own sovereign state.

Another imperative, and a very important one, is not to accept the present state of affairs there. Nothing there will work itself out alone; active political and diplomatic steps are needed in order to move the entire problem out of deadlock. And in this connection, I think that it really does seem, at the moment, that the situation is developing in such a way that no one any longer actively opposes the idea of holding an international conference on the Near East or of taking some sort of preparatory steps toward such an international conference.

I think another important imperative that emerged in the course of that visit is that, of course, the Arab countries have a pressing need for solidarity with their struggle. And in the present case, of course, the solidarity that is being demonstrated by the Soviet Union, and which of course absolutely excludes any anti-Israeli prejudices -- we really do advocate guaranteeing the security of all the states situated in that zone. But one thing is perfectly clear: the problem of the Near East demands international efforts.

[Zhurkin] Well, Nikolay Vladimirovich, the Near East conflict is of course the most prolonged of all international conflicts, the most chronic, one of the most (?intolerable), one of the most severe [passage indistinct] but it is only one of a whole series of international conflicts that exist at present on our planet. And it appears, first, that any advance along the part to a possible international conference and toward the resolution of the Near East conflict would have colossal foreign policy significance. It would be a colossal experiment that would create some kind of a model for approaching the resolution of other international conflicts. And, for this reason, those efforts that are being undertaken by our country in the active development of common approaches to the resolution of international conflicts and conflict situations as a whole, and in the development of a program to establish universal international security that was proposed by the 27th CPSU Congress -- it seems to me that this is an element of exclusive importance in the struggle for strengthening international security which does not amount merely to the process of reducing armaments. International conflicts are a grave illness and it is necessary to actively cure this illness.

[Shishlin] Yes, and in this connection, of course, those months that have passed since the idea was promoted by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the idea of national reconciliation, are instructive. And such an absolutely clear and noble idea, which I believe is opening up and in the final analysis will open up the path toward national reconciliation in this country, has an effect. And yet how many opponents does it have? And not only opponents of Afghan descent, but opponents from a completely different side, far from Afghanistan, in particular from the United States. This is not just a matter of actual supplies of U.S. weapons to the Dushmans but also of the constant urging of Pakistan to newer and newer provocations against the DRA. And these provocations are increasing in frequency, more noticeable as this idea of national reconciliation gains in strength.

The U.S. position, as is clear from a statement by a representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry, was also clearly revealed during the conversations of Secretary of State Shultz in Moscow. And we know that the United States is attempting to place the issue at the level where, it is held, the root of evil lies in the fact that Soviet troops are in Afghanistan, but where the United States itself is doing everything to obstruct the process of national reconciliation. And at a time when the Kabul government is putting forward far-reaching proposals, the United States is supplying Stinger missiles, missiles that are being launched against the civilian population.

It is also impossible to pass over that challenging provocation that was carried out at the start of the month when Dushman bands attacked Soviet territory. Of course, this was an action aimed not only against the policy of national reconciliation but also against the desire of the Soviet Union to assist in the resolution of Afghan problems by political means. It appears to me that they clearly hoped to arouse our anger, and thereby provoke similar irresponsible actions.

But our position is very clear, and in particular, Shultz was told directly that the United States will not succeed either in achieving the toppling of the legal government in Kabul nor in wearing down the Soviet Union with the assistance of the Afghan conflict.

And the U.S. Administration should clearly understand that the part toward national reconciliation, which the DRA Government is proposing, is the sole possible and reasonable path. And the week of solidarity with Afghanistan which is now being held -- it ends tomorrow -- has shown very vividly that the policy of the Afghan leadership also enjoys very broad international support, despite the attempts by imperialist circles to distort the essence of the events that are taking place in Afghanistan and to distort the essence of the counterrevolution.

[Shislin] It is, of course, a stormy age, and there are many problems today. But all the same, it seems to me that it is important that a process of evening out international relations, of some kind of improvement, has already, to some extent, begun to reveal itself. That idea, which has been put forward by the Soviet Union on the contradictory but interdependent and, to some degree, integral character of the contemporary world -- that idea is also being expressed in the political practice not only of the Soviet Union, not only of the socialist countries -- the new thinking is starting, even if only slowly, to cut a path for itself in international relations as a whole, insofar as, in itself, the demand for new political thinking is not at all some kind of purely altruistic wish. It is dictated by the seriousness of the contemporary international situation, and is dictated by the burning need to really get down to resolving the problems of both limiting and reducing the arms race -- in nuclear weapons in the first instance. It is dictated by the need to really strive to achieve a political settlement of all existing international conflicts, of all these regional problems. This is dictated by the need to unite the efforts of all countries to preserve the world of nature, to preserve the habitational environment of people, and of the living world.

[Levin] Indeed, to preserve humanity itself.

[Shislin] Yes, and all this of course makes up that political, and real background against which this active work by our state for a decisive improvement in the state of international affairs is unfolding.

[Levin] On that note, esteemed comrades, our program ends. Thank you for your attention. All the best.

TELEBRIDGE PROGRAM CONDUCTED WITH U.S. LEGISLATORS

LD252045 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1653 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 Apr (TASS) -- "Let's Get To Know Each Other" -- that is the title of a telebridge conducted today by Soviet and U.S. parliamentarians. Those taking part exchanged information on political systems in the two countries, special features of the work of Soviet and U.S. legislators, and the constitutional rights and duties of citizens.

Among those taking part in the program were Vadim Zagladin and Georgiy Arbatov, both USSR Supreme Soviet deputies, Claudine Schneider and George Brown, members of the U.S. Congress, and others.

This dialogue through space, which was of an organizational nature, opened a new series of Soviet-U.S. telebridges on topical problems of bilateral relations and the new thinking in the nuclear age. Subsequent television discussions will be devoted to such questions as international security and arms control, human rights, regional conflicts, health care, and environmental protection.

WEINBERGER PRESSES MILITARY USE OF ORBITAL STATION

PM261751 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "C. Weinberger Cited on Space Station"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Apr -- U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger has spoken out against the participation of the U.S. allies in work to create a U.S. orbital space station if they are unwilling to support Pentagon plans to use it for military purposes.

Because of the high cost of the project in question Washington had intended to enlist the aid of its European allies, together with Japan and Canada. Talks on this issue were scheduled for next week, but the Pentagon has demanded guarantees from the State Department that the participation of other countries in the creation of the orbital station will in no way affect U.S. military programs.

In a letter to U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, the Pentagon chief said the United States "must not compromise on questions of principle for the sake of reaching such an agreement." "If the price of international cooperation proves too high," the message says, "we must be prepared to carry out this project alone."

PRAVDA CITES WEINBERGER 'FEARS' OF GLASNOST POLICY

PM261821 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

["Rejoinder" by V. Korionov "Openness and the Pentagon"]

[Text] There was a time when gullible people in the West were intimidated by the "closed Soviet society," claiming that only intrigues could be expected from a society where there is "no openness [glasnost]." Now the instigators of anti-Soviet campaigns are rapidly having to change their tune. [paragraph continues]

They are already affirming today that the greatest danger to the West comes from...the openness [glasnost] that is increasingly asserting itself in the USSR. U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger is being especially zealous. His recent speech at the U.S. maritime league in Washington is a graphic example of this.

"One of the most important elements of present Soviet strategy," declared the Pentagon chief, "is the desire to reduce tension with the West...." What is dangerous for the West in this, one would wonder? But Weinberger has a different opinion on this score. He warns: "We must thoroughly analyze openness [glasnost]."

To what conclusions has the secretary's analysis brought him?

"As a result of their 'openness [otkrytost] offensive,'" the speaker maintained, "the Soviets are hoping to retard our forward movement." How is this to be done? It seems that "the Soviets are counting on slowing the pace of the technical modernization of the West's military potential and, it goes without saying, they are hoping that we will give up on SDI. In this way the leader of the Pentagon involuntarily admitted that the articifical exacerbation of international tension and the fueling of anti-Sovietism are a prerequisite for the implementation of the transoceanic militarists' peace-endangering plans. Naturally, the U.S. military department indeed fears that the establishment of openness [glasnost] in the USSR will find a response and meet with understanding among the "Western advocates of detente."

In his endeavors to quell the growing wave of worldwide support for the USSR's active peace-loving policy the U.S. secretary is losing his sense of proportion. "The Soviets are not observing the agreements," he affirms, maintaining: "The key clauses of the ABM Treaty and the SALT II treaty" can be cited as an example of this. And this from the representative of an administration that has declared the SALT II treaty to be a "scrap of paper" and is raising its hand against the ABM Treaty! Finally, flying into a rage, the Pentagon chief proclaimed: Behind the camouflage of openness [glasnost] the Soviets have "mounted an extensive espionage effort against the United States and all the other Western democracies."

How our policy of openness [glasnost] frightens the enemies of international cooperation if in their attempts to discredit it they resort to such unworthy tricks!

COMMENTATOR ON WEINBERGER PRAISE OF CIA

LD252054 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 25 TASS -- TASS commentator Igor Aramov writes:

When one reads the latest statements by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, specifically his yesterday's speech to the Society of American Military Engineers in San Francisco, one involuntarily draws the conclusion that the Pentagon chief has undertaken a mission which is beyond his ability -- to whitewash the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. He uses all sorts of laudatory words in a bid to embellish it in the eyes of the Americans and the world public opinion.

Caspar Weinberger went even as far as saying that the methods being used by the CIA in its activities are very pure, almost sterile.

The memory of the U.S. defence secretary obviously fails him when it comes to the CIA. Seemingly he has forgotten about the CIA's bloody operations in Nicaragua, Vietnam, Iran, Angola, Panama, Guatemala, etc.

The agency left its tainted trace practically in all countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Has Caspar Weinberger forgotten who was weaving conspiracies which led to the overthrow of former prime minister of Iran Mohammed Mossadeq, President of Ghana Nkrumah, the killing of Salvador Allende, and who repeatedly made attempts to make short work of First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba Fidel Castro, who planned bandit raids on Libya and provoked the fraticidal war in Lebanon. And after all that Caspar Weinberger asserts that "our ends -- no matter how noble -- do not justify resort to any means to achieve them."

The defence secretary has seemingly completely forgotten about Irangate, though the White House officially admitted that the CIA was involved in the Iranian operation from beginning to end.

Caspar Weinberger pretends that he knows nothing about the CIA's being actively engaged in shadowing dissenters in the United States itself, making files on persons who come out against the administration's militaristic course. Suffice to say that CIA recruiters are now openly acting at more than 300 colleges and universities of the country.

And, finally, Caspar Weinberger has forgotten that the U.S. espionage agency is (?intensively) weaving intrigues also against its friends. The American newspaper NEWSDAY recently wrote that various methods are being used in espionage activities against allies, just as in espionage activities against the (?enemy) -- interception and deciphering of reports, installation of eavesdropping devices in living rooms and offices, the stealing of documents or recruitment of an agent working at the governmental department of an allied country.

Could CIA's activities be pure then? There can be only one answer to the question about the aims of the U.S. defence secretary trying in every way to whitewash the American espionage agency and why he has been dong this exactly now: Kindling a campaign of anti-Sovietism and spyscare inside the country, the American Administration is trying hard to divert the attention from the CIA's dirty work all over the world. And Caspar Weinberger has been chosen as a sweeper.

TASS NOTES SECRET DIRECTIVE ON AFGHANISTAN

LD261136 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Washington April 26 TASS -- To use "all means available" to hold back the termination of bloodshed in Afghanistan and the establishment of long-awaited peace there -- this is the purpose of Washington's massive aid to groups of Dushmans (counter-revolutionaries). It was formulated in National Security Decision Directive 166 the existence of which was reported by THE WASHINGTON POST.

In its words, the document, NSDD 166, signed by President Reagan in April 1985 "stated for the first time the clear" tasks which the United States is striving to achieve by steadily expanding subversive operations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, in the past five years U.S. Congress allocated 1,071 million dollars for the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Dushman's supporters on Capitol Hill expect the annual value of aid to the counter-revolutionary forces in Afghanistan to reach one billion dollars in 1989.

CSSR'S STROUGAL MEETS PRC'S ZHAO ZIYANG

LD241946 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Beijing April 24 TASS -- Member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Chairman of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Lubomir Strougal arrived for an official friendly visit here today. An exchange of opinions on questions related to the creation of favourable conditions for the intensification of cooperation in economy, culture, education, health services and sports, was held during the talks with acting General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Premier of the State Council of the PRC Zhao Ziyang, that was started here.

Having exchanged information on the state of internal development of the PRC and Czechoslovakia, on their foreign policy courses, the sides emphasized that alongside trade exchange between the PRC and Czechoslovakia which reached a high rate of development in the recent years it is also necessary to widen and deepen purposefully a long-term cooperation and specialization of production as the most effective ways of enhancing dynamism of economic interaction, in which both countries are interested.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

LD261440 Moscow TASS in English 1347 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Beijing April 26 TASS -- As a result of the talks held during the stay of Lubomir Strougal, a member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, prime minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, in the People's Republic of China the sides signed two documents which demonstrate that bilateral cooperation is developing. The documents signed are an agreement on the founding of a Chinese-Czechoslovak shipping company and an agreement under the terms of which Czechoslovakia will transfer to China the technology for the production of Tatra-815 trucks.

According to the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, the signing ceremony was attended by Lubomir Strougal and Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

Lubomir Strougal also held talks with Li Xiannian, president of the People's Republic of China, and Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Advisory Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. During the meetings the sides expressed the mutual desire to expand cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

QIAN QICHEN 'PLEASED' WITH MOSCOW TALKS

LD262234 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The deputy Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen, has said he is pleased with the results of Soviet-Chinese political consultations held in Moscow from the 14th to the 20th of April. In an interview with newsmen, he said the consultation had helped to notably improve relations between the two countries. Deputy Foreign Minister Qian Qichen had talks in Moscow with his Soviet counterpart, Igor Rogachev, to normalize Soviet-Chinese relations, diffuse regional conflict-prone situations, and solve other problems.

PRAVDA REPORTS CONCLUSION OF PRC NPC SESSION

PM261731 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[B. Barakhta article: "Complex Roads of Transformations; On the Results of the NPC Session in China"]

[Text] The scheduled session of the all-China National People's Congress [NPC] has concluded its work in Beijing. Deputies of the supreme organ of PRC state power examined a whole series of important questions of the PRC's internal political situation, socioeconomic development, and foreign policy.

The NPC deputies listened to and approved a report on the work of the government given by Zhao Ziyang, premier of the state Council and acting general secretary of the Communist Party of China [CPC] Central Committee. The plan for China's economic and social development for this year was ratified, as was the state budget for 1987. Furthermore, the draft "PRC Law on Committees of Rural Inhabitants" was basically approved.

The year 1987 is the 2d year of the 7th PRC 5-Year Plan (1986-1990), and questions of socioeconomic development for this period were examined at the session.

Zhao Ziyang named as the most important achievement of the past year the perceptible regulation of the economy's "overheating" -- caused at the start of the 1980's by the artificially accelerated high growth rates of the national economy -- and the economy's continuing gradual transfer to stable normal development. It was pointed out at the session that in 1986 gross industrial and agricultural output increased more than 9 percent over the preceding year, while national income grew by 7.4 percent.

In 1986 the volume of industrial production increased more than 9 percent in comparison with 1985 -- against a planned 8 percent. Plan targets for the manufacture of the majority of the most important types of output -- for example, steel, cement, locomotives, and power engineering equipment -- were overfulfilled. Thus, 52 million tonnes of steel were smelted, 870 million tonnes of coal were mined, 130 million tonnes of oil were extracted, and 445 billion kilowatt-hours of electric power were generated in the PRC last year.

At the same time, it was pointed out at the NPC session, the plan targets for 1986 were not achieved for some very important types of industrial output.

Today, as they did at last year's NPC session, the deputies pointedly asked questions about the low economic effficiency of the work of many plants and factories and the poor quality of output. Thus, the considerable state budget deficit has become one of the manifestations of finanacial trouble. Last year it exceeded the projected amount to total over 7 billion yuan.

Both the report and the debates on it devoted great attention to the reform of the economic system under way in the PRC. At the present stage, in the words of the State Council premier, the process of "replacing the old system with the new" has begun. In fact, many elements of the past system have already been destroyed, while the elements of the new system are still at the formative stage. In this connection the deputies from Hunan and Hebei Provinces and from Shanghai spoke with alarm of the fact local enterprises are not being permitted to exercise the rights granted them by economic reform, almost all their profit is being removed, and a system of directors' personal responsibility is not being introduced.

As is clear from the NPC deputies' speeches, bureaucracy, incompetence, and the willful style of economic leadership remain a serious brake on the road of economic reform.

The session devoted much attention to agricultural questions. On the whole this sector of the economy is developing successfully. In 1986 the PRC harvested more than 390 million tonnes of grain and 3.5 million tonnes of cotton fiber, and it produced more than 18 million tonnes of meat and 8 million tonnes of output from the water resources sector. The value of gross agricultural output rose by 3.5 percent over the year.

The successes achieved did not push into the background at the NPC session the existing problems of Chinese agriculture. Last year, in relation to 1985, the cotton harvest declined by 14 percent and that of oil-producing crops by 7 percent. The production of tea, eggs, vegetables, and sugar also fell in 1986.

Questions of the PRC's foreign economic ties were also examined during the session. Last year the volume of China's foreign trade exceeded $70 billion, an increase of 6 percent in 1985. In 1986 the total of the PRC's practically utilized foreign capital was almost $7 billion.

At the same time, the speakers at the session noted in foreign economic ties such problems as the foreign trade deficit, which exceeds $12 billion, the low efficiency of enterprises operated jointly with foreign businessmen, and the poor competitiveness on the international market of the output of PRC plants and factories, including those sited in special economic zones.

In 1986 the real incomes of urban inhabitants increased by 13 percent in comparison with 1985, whereas that of rural inhabitants increased by only 3 percent. In addition, as before in the Chinese countryside, more than 11 percent of all families -- according to official figures -- had an annual per capita income of less than 200 yuan. The acuteness of the uneployment problem and the housing shortage has not been reduced.

The deputies also noted phenomena such as the continuing rise in prices and the country's inflationary processes. Last year as a whole the prices of consumer goods rose by an average of 6 percent. The considerable gulf between labor productivity growth rates -- 4 percent in 1986 -- and the dynamics of monetary income -- over the same period of time workers' and employees salaries increased by 16 percent -- is exacerbating the situation.

The deputies approved the guidelines for the PRC's socioeconomic development for the coming year. The reform in the national economy will be continued to "actually place the economy on a foundation of steady and stable development," as the report put it. Here, primary attention will be devoted to monitoring: the state of affairs in agriculture and capital construction; the rate of economic growth; the balanced nature of the state budget; the availability of mass commodities; and, in general, the progress of the "global restructuring of the economic system" of the PRC.

This year there are plans to increase the grain harvest by 4 percent over the previous year and take it to 405 million tonnes of grain. The volume of gross industrial output is planned to rise by 7 percent.

The session discussed questions of the struggle under way in China against bourgeois liberalization. Revealing the essence of this ideological current, the State Council premier explained it constitutes an "attempt to escape the Communist Party's leadership, an attempt to deny the socialist system, and an appeal to embark on the road of capitalism." [paragraph continues]

Zhao Ziyang's report points out that in this "struggle it is necessary to display firmness," but it should not be transformed into a political campaign, which could have a negative effect on the course of the economic reforms.

The NPC session confirmed the PRC's orientation toward the implementation of an independent and autonomous foreign policy. "Our tireless efforts," Zhao Ziyang said, "are aimed at the preservation of peace, arms reduction, and promoting cooperation and development."

As a whole the results of the NPC session illustrate that the complex processes of transformation in various spheres of the country's life are continuing in China.

PROGRESS IN RELATIONS WITH CHINA APPLAUDED

OW230543 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0300 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Listeners, you probably know Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze met with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who was China's chief delegate to the Soviet-Chinese political consultations in Moscow. The two sides discussed questions of principle significance in the steadily developing Soviet-Chinese relations. The Soviet side pointed out that the Soviet Union would firmly promote steady progress in Soviet-Chinese relations, including politial relations, and the establishment of stable good-neighbor contacts. An observer from this station has the following comments on bilateral relations:

In recent years, gratifying changes have taken place in relations between the two countries. There have been more and more meetings between Soviet and Chinese officials. Bilateral trade and economic cooperation are being constantly expanded. Cultural, sporting, scientific, technological, and social exchanges are becoming daily more frequent. The Soviet people are pleased with the progress in Soviet-Chinese relations.

We are also glad the Soviet Union and China hold an identical position on current important issues. For instance, China opposes militarization of space and stands for an unconditional ban on chemical weapons. China advocates the establishment of nuclear-free zones in Asia and other continents. As you know, the Soviet Union holds the same position.

Of course, the Soviet Union and China also hold different positions on some international policies and issues. We do not think such differences should be an obstacle to the development of friendly relations between the two countries. We stand for further good-neighbor relations with China, but we do not set any preconditions, nor do we demand China change its policy on a certain third country. If we made such demands on each other, we would be violating each other's sovereignty. We hold that our bilateral relations should not hurt the interests of a third country.

The Soviet people are convinced the Soviet Union and China have all the necessary conditions for further developing friendly relations. This is not only in the interest of the Soviet and the Chinese peoples but also conforms to the aspirations of all people in the entire socialist world.

JAPAN POSTPONES AGREEMENT ON SDI PARTICIPATION

LD241508 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo April 24 TASS -- The Japanese Government decided today to postpone the concluding of an official agreement with the U.S. on terms of Japan's participation in Reagan's "Star Wars" program.

According to the Japanese press, Prime Minister Nakasone planned to sign the agreement during his official visit to Washington scheduled for the end of April with a view to reducing the intensity of the Japanese-American trade war.

The postponement was brought about by the need to additionally coordinate concrete details of the agreement which is being worked out, KYODO TSUSHIN reports. Nakasone's statement last September to the effect that Tokyo was joining the implementation of the "Star Wars" program triggered protests of opposition parties and the scientific circles of the country.

KALININ ON EFFECTS OF JAPAN'S DEFENSE SPENDING

OW251018 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Kalinin commentary]

[Excerpts] Listeners, KYODO has quoted a Defense Agency source as saying Japan's military spending next year will exceed its 1-percent-of-GNP ceiling. In this regard, military commentator Kalinin writes:

The government will let go of the brakes and the wheel of military spending will roll at an increasing speed in the future. This is what Professor Mamamura of Senshu University said when the government decided last year to reconsider the 1-percent ceiling. The current development shows his prediction was right.

Military spending in the present fiscal year exceeded the 1-percent-of-GNP ceiling for the first time. The ceiling is expected to again be exceeded in the budget for the next fiscal year. According to KYODO, military spending for the next fiscal year will in fact be much greater. This is due to plans to purchase very expensive modern weapons and equipment during the next fiscal year.

For example, the Ground Self-Defense Force plans to deploy a large number of ground-to-ship missiles in Hokkaido, while the Maritime Self-Defense Force is preparing to purchase Aegis-type missile cruisers developed in the United States. The Air Self Defense Force also intends to introduce 100 new-generation aircraft to replace domestically-produced F-1 fighter-bombers. The SE plans represent only part of Japan's weapons program. A large increase in military spending is inevitable if all of Japan's weapons plans are implemented. If such a situation develops, what will it bring to Japan? This question will be answered clearly when we see the example of the United States. [passage omitted on large military expenditures in the United States and their adverse economic effects]

Military projects prevent huge amounts of funds from being used for scientific development. Compared with 1980, expenditures for military research, experiments, and design have almost doubled in the United States. Expenditures for the same purposes in Japan have also been increasing.

There is also a possibility these expenditures will be further expedited in connection with a plan to reorganize the Defense Agency's Technological Research Headquarters scheduled to go into effect in July 1987. The major purpose of this reorganization plan is to create a new research center designed to develop the latest military technology in the electronics field.

It is often said that military research and development will accelerate scientific and technological progress in the private sector. According to an estimate by U.S. experts, however, benefits the private sector receives from military research spending do not exceed 10 percent of the benefits expected to be brought to the private sector if spending is made for peaceful purposes.

We must also consider that most military schemes, including SDI, are kept secret. Therefore, the results of the research in these military schemes are, for the most part, beyond the reach of the private sector. It is thus quite unreal to say the total results of military research are beneficial to the private sector. [passage omitted]

In this context, it will not be difficult to imagine what Japan's policy of unchecked increases in military spending will bring to Japan. It should not be forgotten that this policy will eventually lead to serious situations not only economically but also in terms of national security. Increases in weapons are as dangerous as a powder keg. We cannot say we are safe if we are sitting on a powder keg. The surest way to guarantee a peaceful life is to remove this powder keg. This is a less expensive way to achieve security.

JAPANESE VESSELS BEGIN FISHING OFF FAR EAST COAST

LD212153 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Nakhodka April 21 TASS -- Today Japanese small vessels started fishing off the Soviet far-eastern coast. A permission for commercial fishing in the Soviet economic zone was issued to representatives of Japanese fishermen in Nakhodka. The total fishing quota will amount to 150,000 tonnes. In turn, Soviet fishermen will catch the same quantity of mackerel in the Japanese economic zone. Business cooperation on a clear-cut contractual basis is advantageous for both countries.

SHEVARDNADZE, DRA'S WAKIL HOLD 'COMRADELY' TALKS

LD261318 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 26 TASS -- On April 25, Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister, met and talked with Abdol Wakil, member of the Political Bureau of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and DRA foreign minister, who was in Moscow in route to Kabul from Havana, where he attended the foreign ministers' meeting of the Group of 77 within the framework of preparations for the next UNCTAD conference.

'Abdol Wakil briefed Eduard Shevardnadze on the situation taking shape now around the DRA, on the course of implementation of the national reconciliation policy and the measures being taken by the country's leadership for the speediest ensuring of peace and tranquility on the Afghan soil.

Eduard Shevardnadze spoke highly of the measures being taken by the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan Government within the framework of the national reconciliation policy and expressed confidence that all the attempts made by the external forces hostile to the DRA at thwarting the reconciliation policy are doomed to a failure.

The minister noted that the main obstacle in the way to a political settlement is the continuing armed interference from the outside in the DRA's home affairs sponsored by the USA and its allies, above all by Pakistan. This interference, whose scale is growing, is evidence of the U.S. Administration's intention to prevent a stabilization of the situation and an end to bloodshed in Afghanistan.

It was stressed from the Soviet side that the USSR is firmly committed to the policy outlined by the 27th Congress of the CPSU at reaching a political settlement around Afghanistan, which will make it possible to speed up the return home of the Soviet military contingent staying in the DRA.

The meeting of the two ministers proceeded in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KABUL

LD251054 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 25 TASS -- A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Lev Yermin, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, has arrived in Kabul today at the invitation of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan.

In the international airport the delegation was welcomed by Haji Mohammad Chamkani, acting chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council, [and] other officials. Among the welcoming party was USSR Ambassador to the DRA Pavel Mozhayev.

GUNMEN ATTACK AFGHAN CHARGE'S HOME IN TEHRAN

LD261807 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 26 TASS -- A group of gunmen attacked the residence of the charge d'affaires ad interim of Afghanistan in Tehran on April 23, BAKHTAR news agency reported.

There ensued a shoot-out between the terrorists and the residence's guards.

In this connection the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Islamic Repullic of Iran was summoned today to the Afghan Foreign Ministry where he was presented with a strong protest over that violation of generally recognized norms of international law and provisions concerning foreign diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

The Foreign Ministry of Democratic Afghanistan strongly demanded that the criminals be punished and the Iranian side honor its international commitments to protect the diplomatic missions so that to prevent incidents adversely affecting relations between the two neighboring countries.

DRA REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL DECREES PARTIAL AMNESTY

LD261735 Moscow TASS in English 1722 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 26 TASS -- The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of Democratic Afghanistan has passed a decree on the partial amnesty of people serving different terms of imprisonment, BAKHTAR news agency reported.

The decision, taken to mark the 9th anniversary of the April revolution, is striking evidence of the consistency of the policy of national reconciliation pursued by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan Government.

CIA ASSASSINATION PLAN AGAINST NAJIBULLAH ALLEGED

LD222144 Moscow TASS in English 1938 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 22 TASS -- Following is BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY statement:

The state security organs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have reliable information on hand that the CID [intelligence service] of Pakistan is formulating and organising a conspiracy to assassinate Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC. The organisers of this terroristic plan are striving to achieve their ominous goal by using the enemies of the process on national reconciliation in Afghanistan as an instrument and to make out as if the crime has emanated due to the differences and conflicts within the political circles of the DRA.

According to available information, the conspiracy on Najib's life is being organized with the active participation and supervision of CIA agents in Pakistan.

The formulation and organisation of such terroristic plans is another glaring example of the impudent interventions of Washington and Islamabad into the internal affairs of the DRA. It clearly indicates that the Reagan administration and Ziaul Haq regime do not refrain from using any means to foil the political initiatives of the leadership of the DRA pertaining to the implemenation of the policy of national reconciliation in the country. They are trying to ever further expand the undeclared war against the DRA, to intensify the subversive activities to be carried out by the extremist elements and to implement the U.S. policy of terrorism against our country.

BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY has been authorised to declare that the government and the state security organs of the DRA are fully prepared to foil the state-run terrorist plans against the DRA and to bring to naught all conspiracies hatched by the secret organisations of the United States and Pakistan on the life of the state leaders of Afghanistan by using the enemies of national reconciliation.

INDIA CONCERNED BY U.S. ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN

OW250750 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1115 GMT 24 Apr 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vitaliy Korzin]

[Text] The U.S. Arms sales to Pakistan are the source of great concern to neighboring India. Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh, during a 2-day visit to Washington at talks with senior members of the U.S. Administration, express serious concern on this matter.

The Indian Minister made it clear that should the United States continue to assist Pakistan militarization, and more particularly, should the United States supply Pakistan with AWACS spy planes to monitor Indian territory, this would have a negative result on future Indian-U.S. relations.

The Indian Minister of Defense K.C. Pant, at a recent news conference held by the Indian Air Force High Command, said plainly that the U.S. deliveries of the most modern arms to Pakistan create a threat to Indian independence.

PAKISTANI MILITARY FIRES ON INDIAN PEASANTS

LD261144 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] New Delhi April 26 TASS -- The Pakistani military yesterday opened unprovoked fire on Indian territory in the Punchh sector, Jammu and Kashmir state, and one woman was killed and two Indian peasants were wounded as a result of that armed provocation, UNI NEWS AGENCY reported today, quoting an official statement.

It said that Pakistani troops in the past two months had repeatedly fired on Indian territory, causing casualties among the local population.

PRAVDA CITES PHILIPPINE CP STATEMENT ON ELECTION

PM151438 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Kuznetsov report: "Appeal by the Communist Party of the Philippines"]

[Text] Manila, 9 Apr -- As the parliamentary elections, planned for the first half of May, draw near, the political situation in the Philippines is becoming increasingly intense. In this regard the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] Central Committee Politburo has made a statement. First and foremost it points out that imperialism and reaction are using the "bugaboo of the red peril" to direct right-wing forces against the country's left-wing progressive forces, secure a victory for conservative and pro-American candidates at the elections, and thereby ensure the preservation of U.S. military bases in the Philippines. An important place in this campaign is assigned to anti-Soviet propaganda, the statement says. Reactionary forces are once again brandishing the specter of the red peril and concocting all kinds of fables about the Soviet Union, trying to accuse it of interfering in the Philippines' internal affairs.

Particular concern is aroused among Philippine Communists by the revival and expansion of the activity of groups of extreme right-wing religious fanatics, like "Alsa Masa" and "Nakasaka" [names as transliterated]. They put into practice the U.S. doctrine of "low-intensity conflicts," which is aimed not only at the harsh suppression of rebel movements, but also at terrorizing the civilian population with a view to kindling anticommunist hysteria.

The Philippine Communists' appeal to the people is not pessimistic. It is permeated by faith in the nation's sound forces. Stressing that "it is not too late," the CPP Central Committee Politburo appeals to democratic forces to unite to step up the struggle against imperialism, for the elimination of U.S. bases, and for the fulfillment of the article of the Constitution which provides for turning the Philippines into a nuclear-free zone.

KUZNETSOV ON 'ACUTE' SITUATION IN PHILIPPINES

PM141521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 87 Second Edition p 6

[Own correspondent L. Kuznetsov dispatch under the rubric "Echo of the Week": "Unease in the Philippines"]

[Text] Manila, April [dateline as received] -- Another minute and shots would have been fired. However, the attempt to assassinate the head of state was averted. The drama which might have been played out in Tacloban City on Leyte Island stirred up the public. We recall that 2 weeks ago in Baguio City infernal devices destroyed the rostrum from which Corazon Aquino was to have spoken. Now there has been a new attempt. The question again arises: Who is organizing these acts of terrorism?

It should be said that C. Aquino has many enemies. They do not like the fact that the president constantly talks about a policy of "national reconciliation," adheres to the "golden mean" principle, and from these positions tries to oppose both the "hawks" in the right-wing camp of the Philippine military and the left-wing extremists. [paragraph continues]

C. Aquino has freed political prisoners and tried to make peace with the rebel movements. Expressing her intention to solve the most complex economic problems and alleviate the position of the masses, she has taken her first, albeit modest, but concrete steps: Prices of medicines have been cut, teachers' salaries have been increased, and the 1987 budget has increased social spending (by between 16.7 and 22.4 percent). Finally, the acute need for agrarian reform has been discussed in public for virtually the first time. Philippine reactionaries and their patrons abroad are annoyed that the present administration is not taking severe measures against members of the peace movement and the movement which advocates transforming the Philippines into a zone free of nuclear weapons and eliminating the U.S. bases. Finally, facts such as the talks between representatives of the Philippine business world and the USSR on the construction of conventional power stations on the archipelago, the provision of study grants to Soviet VUZ's, and the development of ties in the sphere of culture and sport arouse a stormy and malicious reaction from right-wingers.

The Reagan administration has marked down the Philippines as one of the five countries over which a "communist threat" allegedly hangs. According to Pentagon logic, measures should be taken to ensure that the United States is not deprived of its bases on Philippine soil.

Judging by everything, domestic Philippine reaction and its foreign patrons are now switching from propaganda campaigns to pressure, blackmail, and terror methods.

Not long before the Baguio City and Tacloban incidents, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense R. Armitage, speaking to the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, literally reprimanded the Philippine president for, you see, not putting down the rebel movement resolutely enough. Although the president herself rejected this statement as an act of crude interference, right-wing pro-U.S. elements listened with hope to the voice from overseas.

Major General J. Singlaub, a ranking CIA staffer, spent several months in the Philippines in order to weld all the right-wing organizations into one strike unit.

A host of paramilitary formations composed mainly of religious fanatics has emerged in the last few years. One of them, the "Sacred Heart of Jesus," number 150,000 fighters, according to BUSINESS DAY information. Finally, there is the constant presence in the country of an enormous contingent of U.S. troops which is interfering increasingly actively in the country's political life.

Not a day goes by without the newspaper writing about the "Alsa Masa" (Risen People) gang of fanatics who broke away from the "Sacred Heart of Jesus." One of its ringleaders, Lieutenant Colonel F. Kalida [name as published], stated that he is guided by Hitler's ideas.

As the newspaper MALAYA wrote, "Alsa Masa" and other similar militarized formations are part of Reagan's strategy of "low-level conflicts" carried out by the CIA. The CIA creates and finances armed groupings to "restore U.S.-style democracy."

Currently the United States is intensively building up troop contingents at its bases. Special aircraft equipped to suppress partisan and insurgency movements have arrived in the Philippines.

Preparations are now in full swing in the country for the parliamentary elections scheduled for May. The political situation is heating up with every passing day. [paragraph continues]

The right-wingers are determined to gain a majority in parliament. Relying on support from the U.S. imperialists, fueling anticommunist thinking, and using gangs of religious fanatics to scare voters, Philippine reaction has been waging an offensive designed to eliminate the "democratic ground" won by the people as a result of the February events of 1986.

Thus, a tragedy at Tacloban was averted last week. The criminals were arrested. It can, however, be stated with confidence that the forces of reaction, despite their abortive assassination attempt, having by no means been subdued. The situation remains acute. It was no coincidence that the president stated to the participants in the mass rally at Tacloban: "We must doggedly defend our democracy...."

SRV SPOKESMAN CITED ON PRC CLAIM TO ARCHIPELAGOES

OW190845 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 17 Apr 87

[Text] A spokesman of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has said: A spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a statement on 15 April on the so-called Chinese sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truon Sa archipelagoes. The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically refutes all Chinese groundless claims and once again affirms Vietnam's sovereignty over these two archipelagoes as well as its determination to firmly protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

SRV'S NGUYEN VAN LINH'S REMARKS ON PRC TIES NOTED

OW190837 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 17 Apr 87

[Text] Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, advocates restoration of normal relations with China. In an interview with French journalists, he said this would respond to the basic interests of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples. Comrade Nguyen Van Linh added that Vietnam would do everything possible to achieve this end.

Regarding Cambodia, Vietnam will immediately withdraw its troops from this country after China ends its support for the Pol Pot Clique.

SRV AMBASSADOR TO USSR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM231603 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4
[TASS report: "Envoy Arrives"]

[Text] On 22 April Nguyen Manh Cam, SRV ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow.

SHEVARDNADZE, CPCZ'S CHNOUPEK HOLD TALKS IN MOSCOW

LD261554 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, met with Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR foreign minister, during a brief stopover in Moscow by the latter on 25 April on his way to Kabul.

In their conversation, the ministers expressed satisfaction with the current development and improvement of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation in all areas. The resoluteness to deepen the unity and cohesion of the socialist community and interaction between the Warsaw Pact member states in their struggle for peace and social progress was emphasized. When discussing international problems, the issues of halting the arms race and establishing a comprehensive system of peace and international security were at the center of attention.

Comrades Shevardnadze and Chnoupek stressed the urgent need for an early agreement on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe and for an accord on operational and tactical missiles. The special significance of the CSSR and GDR initiatives on establishing a nuclear-free corridor and a zone free from chemical weapons in Central Europe was pointed out. Hope was expressed that all European states, primarily NATO member states, will make their contribution along this line.

The conversation was held in a heartfelt and comradely atmosphere. Complete unity of views was demonstrated on all issues discussed.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON LIGACHEV'S VISIT TO HUNGARY

More on Rally Address

LD231908 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is in Hungary on a working visit. Our correspondent Vladimir Stefanov reports from Budapest:

[Stefanov] This morning talks took place between Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev and MSZMP leaders. The Soviet leader paid tribute to the memory of Hungary's heroes, who fell for the country's independence, and laid wreaths at the Vladimir Ilich Lenin memorial and at the monument to the Soviet liberating soldiers.

This afternoon Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev visited the Szim machinetool building combine in Budapest, which for many years has been closely linked with Soviet organizations and enterprises and has been carrying out major Soviet orders.

A Hungarian-Soviet friendship meeting took place at the combine. Speaking at the meeting, Comrade Ligachev said, in particular:

[Begin recording] Esteemed comrades, dear friends:

We have come to Hungary on a working visit at the invitation of the MSZMP Central Committee. On the very first day of business we decided to go to workers collectives to experience the social atmosphere, to understand what problems are worrying our Hungarian comrades, and to compare the plans and the work being implemented by our fraternal party with the opinion of working people.

I will tell you sincerely that we have not been disappointed in our expectations. We have had a few very interesting, but unfortunately brief, meetings with workers, specialists, and management from your works and combine. I would say we have felt a healthy spirit, optimism, the confidence of the Hungarian working class, and its striving to work more energetically and to live better; that is, the very same, important thing that is today moving the entire socialist world: the rhythm of renewal and a firm and persistent wish to raise everything to new heights.

I want to tell you with all responsibility that at home, in our country, the people's attitude toward the Hungarian people is one of immense respect. All Soviet people are following with great interest your advance along the road of constructing socialism. They adopt an understanding attitude to the difficulties you are encountering, and they rejoice at Hungary's success. These, as is known, are generally recognized. They strengthen the authority of socialism.

We have, in turn, felt your genuine interest in what is now taking place in the Soviet Union, and I want to tell you about it. If one asks what in our country determines the basic content and the main rhythm of work in our society, the following brief answer can be given: The entire party and all our people are working under the sign of the approaching 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and under the effect of the decisions of the party Central Committee's April plenum, the 27th party congress, and the Central Committee January plenum.

Our country has truly entered a new period of development. We call it restructuring. Over a wide front reforms are being carried out in the economy, in political and spiritual life, and in the moral atmosphere. The essence of these reforms, I will stress at once comrades, is not a denial of all previous experience. Their essence is creation. It is the improvement of developing socialism. It is the continuation of the cause of Great October. At the same time, simultaneously with creation, the road along which we progress is also being cleared of everything obsolete, of everything that, I would say, has grown decrepit and ramshackled. The party found it necessary to radically change the situation. In this connection the Central Committee's January plenum pronounced the reforms sternly, courageously, and, I would say, with the highest degree of political responsibility.

Its decisions gave integrity to the whole concept of restructuring and defined practical measures, motive forces, and guarantees to accelerate social progress in our society. We describe the transformations that have unfurled in the country -- of which you are now speaking -- as revolutionary. This is not just for effect, because they are indeed revolutionary -- first and foremost because they truly touch upon the most significant aspects of all spheres of social life. The party has made a point of -- and we are following it strictly, from the Politburo to primary party organizations -- not evading decisions and not evading a single difficult or complex question. Also, because the transformations are being carried out energetically, as a rule the word is followed by the deed. A remote scheme is united with the present day. Overall, comrades, this means we wish to break away from the well-known gradual nature of our development. We are performing a leap toward a new and high quality condition in Soviet society.

Comrades, our country's domestic policies are inextricably linked with activity to ensure peace and international security. The old, popular, and wise saying can be applied here: He who builds a house does not want a fire. He who is engaged in the development of the economy and the improvement of the people's life does not want war. Thus truth can be applied alike to both our country and yours and to other fraternal countries where peaceful work and the well-being of the working people are the highest social values.

The preservation of peace today is only possible by affirming new political thinking as the norm. We often speak of the new political thinking. What do we mean by it? What is the essence of this new political thinking? The essence lies in the necessity of rejecting wars and the policy of force, which have become totally obsolete in the nuclear space age, and in an understanding of the situation that the security of certain countries cannot now be ensured at the expense of other countries. Security can only be in identical, mutual, all-embracing, and, to be precise, international security. Very deep contradictions divide us and capitalism. These are, however, the contradictions of one world, and its security is indivisible.

We are convinced of the construction of a nuclear-free, secure world. And all peoples, all countries -- large, medium and small -- must participate in all this. All initiatives by the Soviet Union and by the socialist countries, which have evoked an enormous response and very widespread support throughout the world, are permeated with the new political thinking. One of them is the Soviet Union's decision to isolate the problem of the total elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles, as well as operational and tactical missiles in Europe. The new Soviet proposals, which were submitted by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in Prague and recently in Moscow, are aimed at accelerating and facilitating an agreement on all these extremely important questions. Surely this is an example of the fresh manifestation of flexibility in the course of the CPSU, which once again confirms that Soviet foreign policy is moved by a sincere desire to rid the world of the threat of an incinerating nuclear war. [end recording]

Visits Cooperative Farm

LD242213 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Commitee who is in Hungary on a working visit, today went to the New Life Agricultural Production Cooperative, near Budapest. In the course of warm meetings with rural workers, the Soviet guest learned about the advanced methods of farm management and the application of the latest achievements in agricultural science and technology. He wished the cooperative workers new labor success in increasing the production of agricultural output.

Visits Joint Medical Enterprise

LD242217 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1206 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, 24 Apr (TASS) -- Ye. K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is on a working visit to Hungary, today visited the first joint Soviet-Hungarian enterprise "Micromed," which was built in Esztergom in Komarom County. It specializes in the production and sale of up-to-date articles of medical equipment, using the latest achievements of microelectronics.

The management of the international collective spoke to the Soviet guest about important developments at the enterprise, which participates in the implementation of the integrated program of scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member states. In the next 5 years the enterprise will be producing about a hundred types of different medical equipment.

Assessing the work of the collective, Ye. K. Kigachev stressed that the creation of the "Micromed" was a vivid example of the pooling of the creative potential of the two countries' scientists and specialists.

Holds Talks With Kadar

LD251458 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1005 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, 25 Apr (TASS) -- Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in Hungary on a working visit, today met with MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar. In a cordial, comradely conversation, they informed one another about the course of the implementation of the decisions of the Central Committee plenum and the 13th MSZMP Congress, and about the principal directions of the two parties' work at the present stage. CPSU-MSZMP mutual support and solidarity, and their unity with regard to the main tasks of accelerating socioeconomic development and deepening democracy and openness were again expressed. Ye.K. Ligachev and Janos Kadar noted with satisfaction the successful development of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation in all fields.

They stressed the fundamental significance of accords at the highest level for the development of mutually advantageous Hungarian-Soviet economic ties, on the basis of the use of progressive forms of production and scientific cooperation for overcoming the difficulties manifesting themselves in the Hungarian national economy. Special attention is being devoted to the realization of these accords, it was noted in the course of the conversation.

It was noted that the renewal of cooperation between the fraternal countries on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism, equality, independence, mutual responsibility and a deepened exchange of experience can effectively contribute to the growth of socialism international authority and to the strengthening of the positions of the forces of peace and progress.

Janos Kadar stated that the large-scale proposals put forward by the Soviet leadership create a substantial basis for achieving major accords on questions of lessening military confrontation in Europe. They spoke in favor of continuing and deepening political dialogue between states.

Holds News Conference

LD251937 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1815 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, 25 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondents Aleksandr Kuzmin and Ilya Maslennikov report:

Yegor Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in Hungary on a working visit, spoke at a news conference here today for Hungarian and foreign journalists.

He expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit to Hungary and thanked the MSZMP Central Committee for their hospitality, cordiality, and friendly attention. We highly value the exchange of opinions which has taken place with Janos Kadar and other Hungarian leaders, Yegor Ligachev said. These conversations were fruitful and have once again confirmed the unity of views and complete mutual understanding between the CPSU and the MSZMP.

We retain deep impressions of the meetings with the collectives of Hungarian working people. They have made it possible to get a better perception of the country's working rhythm and the atmosphere of search for ways of solving difficult problems. I will not conceal the fact that it was pleasant for us to feel great interest everywhere in the changes being carried out in the Soviet Union. This manifestation of feelings of friendship and comradeliness which link our countries strengthens our confidence in the correctness of the way we have chosen.

I would like to stress that we embarked on the transformation of social relations not under outside pressure for "liberalization," nor in order to "please" anyone, nor to "delude" anyone, as is frequently alleged in the West. The transformations are dictated by objective factors, by the requirements for production relations to correspond stably with the level of productive forces. The deep essence of the transformations is a better material and spiritual life for the people, more socialism, more socialist democracy, and socialist morality.

The January CPSU Central Committee Plenum provided the theory and policy of restructuring. The plenum drew up the conditions for making restructuring irreversible -- the extension of the democratization of Soviet society and the perfection of cadre policy. The plenum also mobilized the party and the people to carry out deeper reforms aimed at endowing socialism with the most modern forms of social organization.

In the sphere of foreign policy, our party attaches priority to the development of relations with the socialist countries and to the strengthening of world socialism. Questions of our cooperation also occupied a large part of the current talks with our Hungarian comrades. To give the achieved results their due, we were united on the point that there are real possibilities for an upswing of cooperation to a higher level.

In conversations with the Hungarian leaders, international issues were also touched upon. We, Yegor Ligachev stated, have a high regard for support from the MSZMP for the CPSU's foreign policy course, and in turn are at one with the efforts of the Hungarian comrades in the sphere of strengthening the atmosphere of trust in the world.

Yegor Ligachev then answered questions from journalists:

Question from the paper VASARNAPI HIREK: How do you evaluate the results of your visit from the point of view of developing Soviet-Hungarian cooperation? What fresh impressions do you have of the trip?

Ligachev: First of all, I would like to recall that in the past year the leaders of our parties, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev and Comrade Janos Kadar, have met three times. In November they met in Moscow and drew up important accords. On the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee, during our current visit, issues were examined connected with the progress of the fulfillment of these accords. We discussed, for example, how to speed up the introduction in practice of the most advanced forms of production and scientific and technical cooperation, how to rid our ideological cooperation of elements of formalism and give it a quality that meets the requirements of the present day, which must be done so that the contacts between representatives of labor collectives, young people, and the intelligentsia may be even broader. I assume this will facilitate the advancement of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation.

A great impression was produced by the work-loving attitude of Hungarians, by their ability to think flexibly and realistically, and by their ability to display high businesslike qualities in difficult situations. It was pleasant to feel the warm and sincere support and affection with which the working people of Hungary are disposed toward the policy of acceleration being carried out by our party and to see with one's own eyes how dear the cause of Soviet-Hungarian friendship is to them.

Question from Soviet television: In the West they often argue that Hungary is supposedly moving away from socialist construction and is traveling along a road different from that of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community. What can you say about this?

Ligachev: I would answer as follows: Hungary and the Soviet Union have common aims and common ideology, and we have common principles for the construction of the new society. But of course we also have specific conditions. V.I. Lenin foresaw a large variety of forms, methods, and means of building socialism and communism. Social practice has confirmed this foresight in a brilliant way.

Every party is sovereign in working out its political line in accordance with the general provisions governing socialist construction and recognizing responsibility before its own people and for the cause of socialism overall. Practice -- the strengthening of socialism in fact -- is the supreme criterion for the correctness of the chosen course. Comrade M.S. Gorbachev has repeatedly stressed that in the socialist world, in the international communist and workers movement, there can be no monopoly of the ultimate truth by one party. We deeply respect the enormous experience which has been built up in the socialist community and consider it necessary to study, be generalized and used more deeply in the creation of a new society.

Question, ASSOCIATED PRESS: In your address at the factory Thursday you spoke of the study being made in the Soviet Union of Hungary's experience of the development of democracy. Does this mean that the Hungarian system of putting forward a minimum of two candidates for each post of deputy will be used in the USSR?

Ligachev: In accordance with the decisions of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum, we have already taken certain steps. At the elections in the middle of this year to the local soviets of people's deputies -- the most mass bodies of people's power -- as an experiment in a number of electoral districts, several candidates per one post of deputy will be put forward and the so-called multimandate system will be tested. When developing the conditions for the experiment, we of course took into account the experience of Hungary as well as other socialist countries in that sphere. We also have other plans. We will hold the elections, publish the results of the experiment, consult with the people, the electorate, and we will move further in this direction.

Yegor Ligachev replied to other journalists' questions.

Departs for Home 26 Apr

LD260754 Moscow TASS in English 0747 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, April 26 TASS -- Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today departed for home. He was staying in Hungary on a working visit at the invitation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee. At the airport, he was seen off by Karoly Nemeth, deputy general secretary of the Hungarian Workers Party, and other officials.

B.I. Stukalin, ambassador of the USSR to the Hungarian People's Republic, was among the send-off party.

Met by Solomentsev on Arrival

LD261119 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee returned to Moscow from Budapest today. He had been in Hungary at the invitation of the MSZMP Central Committee on a working visit. Comrade Ligachev was met at the airport by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Party Control Committee at the CPSU Central Committee, and responsible officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

YELTSIN-LED DELEGATION BEGINS VISIT TO BULGARIA

LD231655 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr (TASS) -- The delegation of the Moscow Gorkom headed by Boris Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politbuto and first secretary of Moscow Gorkom, left Moscow today to visit Sofia at the invitation of the Sofia City Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials.

Meets With BCP Officials

LD242053 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] A conversation has taken place in Sofia between the CPSU Moscow Gorkom delegation led by Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the CPSU Moscow Gorkom; and Chudomir Aleksandrov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee; Dimitr Stanishev, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee; and Ivan Panev, first secretary of the Sofia City Party Committee [name and title as heard].

The two sides exchanged information on the state of affairs in the party organizations of the two capitals and in the municipal economies. Today, the CPSU Moscow City Committee delegation met with members of the buro of the Bulgarian Communist Sofia City Committee. Comrades Yeltsin and Panev spoke at the meeting.

Views Shultz' Visit

LD261815 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia April 26 TASS -- Boris Yeltsin, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU who led a delegation from the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU to Sofia, held a news conference for Bulgarian and Soviet newsmen here today.

Asked by a correspondent of the VECHERNI NOVINI newspaper about the progress of the reform drive in the USSR, he said: "The unresolved issues as yet by far outnumber those already tackled and so the predominant feeling is that of discontent with the process of change in Moscow so far".

The positive experience already gained, he added with regret, was catching on too slowly. However, the results of last year compared most favorably with those of previous five-year planning periods, Yeltsin said, pointing to increased growth rates in production and labor productivity and to surpassed targets in the building of housing, child-care centers, hospitals and polyclinics.

That was primarily a result of the general mood in society after the April 1985 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th party congress, he said.

"People are now taking a greater interest in everything. They are more active in work and political affairs and are no longer indifferent to what is going on around them," Yeltsin explained.

Speaking of criticism and self-criticism in Soviet society, he said most party leaders had begun seeing criticism as part of a normal functioning of socialist society. He added that maintaining criticism and self-criticism at proper level was the motive force of society's continued progress.

Asked by a TASS correspondent about the results of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to Moscow, Yeltsin said:

"We felt that Americans' desire in principle to agree to a solution to the issue of intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) missiles in Europe. The U.S. side is now examining a draft agreement on eliminating such missiles along with discussing the issue of shorter-range missiles.

"The matter is utterly clear. Europe and also the world as a whole will heave a sigh of relief if this first step -- the elimination of the INF in Europe and the restriction of the number of such missiles in Soviet Asia and on America's territory to 100 -- is taken.

"We are prepared for any reciprocal verification arrangements to monitor compliance with this agreement that the Americans will suggest to us."

Meets With Zhivkov

LD242110 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia April 24 TASS -- "The Bulgarian Communists, the party and state leadership of the People's Republic of Bulgaria fully support the current reorganisation process in the Soviet Union and the decisions of the January plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communists Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), which give an opportunity to unfold still more fully the advantages of the socialist social system for the wellbeing of Soviet people", Todor Zhivkov stated in Sofia today.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgaria Communist Party (BCP), president of Bulgaria's Council of State, received Boris Yeltsin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Moscow City committee of the CPSU, who is heading the CPSU's Moscow City Committee delegation visiting here. During the meeting, there was an exchange of views on the tasks which the CPSU and the BCP tackle at the present stage of the development of socialist society in the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. The novelty, the constructive spirit and initiative on the party of the USSR, Bulgaria and other countries of the socialist community in the approach to the solution of world and regional problems and to the implementation of the realistic program for nuclear disarmament were emphasized when the sides touched upon international topics.

Tours Sofia Committees, Factory

LD252229 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The delegation from the Moscow Gorkom led by Comrade Yeltsin today visited the Executive Committee of the Sofia People's Council. The delegation was acquainted with the dynamic development of Sofia, a city that now occupies the leading place in political, economic, cultural, and social life of the country.

The delegation visited the Vitosha sewing factory in Sofia. About one-half of its output is exported to the Soviet Union.

The delegation from the Moscow Gorkom visited Sofia's Dimitrov rayon party committee where it acquainted itself with the way their organizational, ideologic-political, and propaganda work is being done.

Signs Cooperation Document

LD252221 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia and Moscow have concluded an agreement on cooperation until 1990. The signing of the document was one of the central events during the visit of the Moscow Gorkom delegation headed by Comrade Yeltsin, in the Bulgarian capital. The agreement envisions setting up direct production contacts between enterprises and organizations of the two cities and the establishment of joint enterprises and associations as well as the development of cooperation in the production and sales of consumer goods.

TASS Reports Activities

LD252247 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia, 25 Apr (TASS) -- Boris Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, who leads a delegation from that gorkom, and I. Panev, first secretary of the Sofia City Committee of the BCP, signed an agreement today on cooperation between party, Soviet, trade union, and youth organizations and labor collectives of Moscow and Sofia for 1987-90.

The document stipulates the establishment of direct production and scientific-technical links between Soviet and Bulgarian enterprises and organizations, the establishment of joint enterprises and associations, and the development of business cooperation in all spheres. The broadening of cooperation in the sphere of trade and in the production and marketing of consumer goods was mapped out.

Enterprises and organizations of Moscow and Sofia will exchange delegations with the purpose of studying experience in party, economic, and social activity, getting to know advance technical equipment and technologies, and the organization of production directly in work places. An international socialist competition will be organized between labor collectives of the two capitals.

The sides will pay particular attention to the strengthening of party control over the activity of the economic organizations taking part in resolving the tasks arising from the comprehensive program of scientific-technical progress for CEMA member countries to the year 2000, and also from the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria until the year 2000.

On the same day, members of the delegation visited the capital's People's Council. S. Ninov, chairman of the capital's People's Council, spoke about the dynamic economic and cultural development of Sofia, dwelt on certain problems, stressing the unsatisfactory situation with the municipal transportation, and pointed out the measures being taken to improve transport services to the capital's population. Having emphasized the importance of the first line of Sofia's metro currently being built, he addressed the representatives of the Soviet capital with an appeal to assist in sharing the experience of the Moscow metro-builders and to find other possibilities for speeding up construction.

The guests were also familiarized with the state of internal trade and social and consumer services for the population, which already numbers 1.2 million, and were informed about the fulfillment of plans for housing construction and amenities. It was stressed that the leadership of the city is carefully studying the experience of their Moscow colleagues and is using it for the rapid solution of problems in the Bulgarian capital.

The head of the Moscow Gorkom remarked on the similarity between the problems of development in Moscow and Sofia. A lively exchange of opinions took place on certain features of the operation of various systems of the municipal economy. Particular attention was paid to questions of combining sectoral and territorial interests, the participation of industrial enterprises in the development of the city, and the registration and allocation of housing, observing social justice to the maximum.

The guests then visited the Vitosha factory, one of the largest mens' and womens' clothing production enterprises in the country which exports about one-half of its total output to the Soviet Union. In their conversations with the workers, the members of the delegation asked about the advantages of the new methods of economic management, problems of product quality and marketing, wages, and social security. They viewed new models of clothing exhibited in the fashion house of the Rila association, of which the Vitosha factory is a part.

In a conversation with the chiefs of the "Industry for Man" economic association, attention was concentrated on the achievements and difficulties in manufacturing mass-produced, good-looking, and comfortable clothing and on the preparations to introduce a State Acceptance Service for output. The idea was put forward of establishing a joint enterprise based on one of the factories in the Rila association and a corresponding Moscow factory. It was decided to undertake joint efforts to realize this promising form of cooperation.

In the afternoon the delegation visited the Dimitrovskiy rayon committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party in Sofia and were familiarized with the arrangemment of organizational, ideological, political and propaganda work. At a meeting with the rayon committee's bureau there was discussion about the need to enhance the effectiveness of party work, particularly in the primary party organizations. The guests showed particular interest in an experiment being carried out in Dimitrovskiy rayon to involve the resources and capacities of industrial enterprises and organizations in the development of the rayon's social infrastructure.

During a meeting with the members of the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian Central Cooperative Union, its chairman R. Servezov, described the structure and traditions of the cooperative movement in Bulgaria, which has been in existence for almost 100 years and he spoke of the new conditions of operation of the organization following the recently-adopted party and government documents on the subject. B.N. Yeltsin remarked that new forms of activity in the cooperative movement in the USSR and Moscow are just beginning to be introduced. There was a lively exchange of opinions on ways of developing the cooperative movement taking national and local conditions into account, and specific proposals were discussed for developing links in the area of cooperative trade.

At the end of the day the members of the delegation viewed the People's Palace of Culture and attended a concert by masters of the arts.

Addresses News Conference

LD262226 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS Report: "Visit to Sofia"]

[Text] Sofia, 26 Apr (TASS) -- Boris Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Moscow city committee of the CPSU, who is heading a delegation of the Moscow city committee of the CPSU addressed a press conference for Bulgarian and Soviet journalists here today.

On behalf of the delegation, Yeltsin thanked the Sofia BCP city committee, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the BCP Central Committee for the opportunity granted him to meet labor collectives in the city and its inhabitants -- and for the hospitality, cordiality, and frank opinions.

I would particularly like to mention, he stressed, the conversation with Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of State, in which we touched upon matters relating to mutual relations and cooperation between our countries. A good base has been set up for this, primarily within the framework of the CEMA. It was as if we were checking our watches: We discovered the speed with which restructuring is happening in Bulgaria, comparing it with restructuring in our country, and how Bulgarian Communists and all working people are implementing the decisions of the December (1986) plenum of the BCP Central Committee. In discussing international issues, the coincidence of views was reaffirmed. We are at one with Bulgaria in the fight for a nuclear-free age.

Talking about the state and prospects of cooperation between the working people of the two fraternal capitals, Boris Yeltsin noted that despite long-standing traditions there are still more than a few braking mechanisms on such cooperation, which unfortunately have not yet been removed. Both sides are guilty of this, red tape is guilty, as are shortcomings in the work of planning bodies, which should engage more dynamically in matters of our cooperation. There are enormous reserves here.

Boris Yeltsin went on to say that, together with the leadership of the Sofia city committee of the party and that of a number of enterprises in the Bulgarian capital, the basis was determined for future mutual relations. They must be given greater novelty, they must be rid of formalism, they must go over to direct links in order to obtain a tangible result both in Moscow and in Sofia. There are enormous and realistic possibilities for this. For example, when meeting at the Central Cooperative Union, we and our Bulgarian comrades elucidated that there is the possibility of starting to supply flowers to Muscovites, especially in the winter months.

In the course of the visit we have signed a 5-year treaty, the main aim of which is to give greater dynamism to our mutual relations and cooperation between Moscow and Sofia, and between their party, local government, trade union and Komsomol organizations. However, we have come to the conclusion that this document already needs additions. The treaty will help go over from the exchange of delegations to active cooperation in the political, economic and spiritual spheres.

Boris Yeltsin also stressed the need to go over more boldly to the creation of joint enterprises, for the production of clothing, for example. There are no obstacles to this. But inertia and old approaches frequently operate here. During our meetings in the Bulgarian capital we became convinced that Sofia has good artists, designers, and a production base. At the same time, certain matters are being resolved more successfully in our country.

Replying to a question by a correspondent from the paper VECHERNI NOVINI on the course of restructuring in the USSR, Boris Yeltsin said: The unresolved issues as yet by far outnumber those already tackled. For this reason, the predominant feeling is one of dissatisfaction at the process of transformation in Moscow. The little pieces of positive experience which have been accumulated are, unfortunately, not yet spreading to all of the capital's labor collectives. Last year's results are very different from the results of previous 5-year plan periods. Rates have risen for the growth of production and labor productivity, the plans have been overfulfilled for the introduction of housing, the construction of children's establishment's, hospitals, and polyclinics. And this is, first and foremost, the result of the common mood of the whole society after the April 1985 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th party congress. People have become more interested in everything; they are participating more actively in labor activity and political life; they have become concerned about what is happening around them.

Speaking about criticism and self-criticism in Soviet society, Boris Yeltsin noted that the majority of party leaders have begun to interpret criticism as an element of normal life in a socialist society. The maintenance of criticism and self-criticism at the proper level is the motive force for socialist society's further development. We are now being told off in the West, and our friends are telling us off, too: Isn't there too much criticism and self-criticism in our country, they ask; aren't we putting a weapon in the hands of our enemies? No, we only stand to gain from this because by speaking the truth in our mass information media we are depriving Western journalists of the opportunity to invent fables about the Soviet Union. Replying to a question from a TASS correspondent about the results of the visit to Moscow by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Boris Yeltsin said: We perceived a principled desire on the part of the Americans to settle the question of medium-range missiles in Europe. The American side is now examining a draft agreement on the elimination of such missiles with simultaneous discussion of the question of operational and tactical missiles. This issue is extremely clear. Europe, and indeed, the whole world, would sigh with relief if this first step -- the destruction of medium-range missiles in Europe and the limitation of the number of such missiles in Soviet Asia and on America's territory to 100 -- were taken. We are ready for all means of mutual verification [kontrol] of the fulfillment of such an agreement that might be proposed to us by the Americans.

A question from a BTA correspondent: What time scale will restructuring occupy?

This is question that every Soviet person is asking himself, said Boris Yeltsin. We consider this process to be a lengthy one. We are not going to set specific time limits for restructuring. Obviously the first 2 or 3 years are going to be the most difficult. People have to be taught to think and to act in a new way. Powerful new economic levers of management are going to be needed. Renewal of society will continue for a long time. We are not yet satisfied with the rate of restructuring because we have not broken the braking mechanism, and that has to be broken. Mistakes are possible during this period, but, as V.I. Lenin taught, one must not dramatize, one has to address this as one does a process which cannot go smoothly.

Ends Visit 26 Apr

LD261423 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia, 26 Apr. (TASS) -- A Moscow Gorkom delegation headed by B.N. Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, left here for home today. The delegation was in Sofia at the invitation of the Sofia city committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. The delegation was seen off at the airport by member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee [words indistinct].

Demichev Greets Delegation

LD261424 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Today the Moscow Gorkom delegation headed by Comrade Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom has returned to Moscow. The delegation was staying in Sofia at the invitation of the Sofia city committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

At the airport in Moscow the delegation was met by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials. Pankov, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, was also among those who welcomed the delegation.

BULGARIA'S ATANSOV ARRIVES FOR VISIT 27 APR

OW270957 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 27 Apr 87

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Comrade Atanasov, member of the Politburo of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, arrived in Moscow 27 April for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Comrade Atanasov and his wife were met at Vnukovo Airport at the aircraft's steps by Comrade Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and his wife; and Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Meets With Ryzhkov

LD271151 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 27 TASS -- Talks began in Moscow today between Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Georgi Atanasov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communits Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The head of the Bulgarian Government arrived in Moscow today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

SPECIALISTS IN BULGARIA AGREE WITH PRAVDA CRITICISM

PM081501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Following a PRAVDA Article": "Lessons of a Construction Site"]

[Text] The PRAVDA Editorial Office and the Soyuzglavzagranatomenergo and "Atomenergoeksport" foreign trade associations are the addresses to which the counselor for economic questions at the USSR Embassy in Bulgaria sent a comment by the collective of Soviet specialists at the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Station on L. Zhmyrev's dispatch "Business Trip to Kozloduy" (PRAVDA 9 February this year).

"The collective of Soviet specialists believes that the article raised important and fundamental questions of the USSR's technical assistance in building nuclear power stations in CEMA countries.... Experience of work on the 'Kozloduy' Nuclear Power Station site shows that there are a numer of major questions in need of a solution," reads this document, which was signed by I. Sapir, leader of the group of Soviet specialists at the "Kozloduy" Nuclear Power Station; V. Sharayevskiy, secretary of the party organization; and V. Kamenskikh, chairman of the local committee.

It follows from the letter that the Soviet specialists perceived the PRAVDA article as helping in the work on surmounting a number of complex problems holding it back. "The article quite correctly raises the issue of the need to change the system of sending cadres on business trips and to sharply increase promptness in solving these questions," they write. "It now takes several months to set up a business trip to Bulgaria for a particular specialist, even if an urgent need arises. Thus, for example, following a complaint about automatic firefighting equipment lodged in June 1986, a plant specialist did not arrive to eliminate the defects until January 1987. We could cite many such examples."

The letter points out that the question of Hungarian or GDR specialists coming to the same construction site is settled in 2-3 days, as distinct from us. In connection with all this the collective of Soviet specialists proposes abolishing the lengthy process of agreeing on the data relating to questions at issue in the apparatuses of ministries and the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and enhancing the independence and responsibility of the enterprises and organizations directly involved in giving technical assistance. Here, the letter points out, promptness in solving these questions will make it possible to considerably reduce the number of specialists and not keep them "in reserve."

The letter writers perceive the inadequate thought given to the bilateral contracts that have been concluded as an important reason why work on the construction site is in arrears. It turns out that these documents altogether overlook such important questions as the extent and terms of the Soviet specialists involvement in quality control and do not contain clear pledges by the client with regard to fulfilling the construction and installation work schedule and training operating personnel. The letter also contains other important proposals. It voices the hope that they will all be examined attentively and very urgently in the appropriate departments.

Although the "lull" on the important international construction site was, by all accounts, a temporary phenomenon, the problems raised in the article by PRAVDA's own correspondent and analyzed in depth in the specialists' letter still await their solution.

SEMINAR HELD ON JOINT BULGARIAN ENTERPRISES

PM150741 Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Apr 87 p 3

[A. Kalashnikov report: "Direct Ties -- Direct Profit"]

[Text] A seminar on questions of developing direct production ties and creating joint enterprises and international associations and organizations was held in Moscow 10-11 April within the framework of the Soviet-Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. Representatives of dozens of Soviet and Bulgarian labor collectives implementing these new forms of cooperation participated in it. Some 98 Soviet and 100 Bulgarian enterprises are now cooperating within the direct ties regime, and 10 Soviet-Bulgarian science-and-production associations, 17 international organizations, and 1 joint enterprise have been established. [paragraph continues]

The main issue today, it was pointed out at the seminar, is not the quantitative aspect but the quality of direct ties and their orientation toward developing profound production collaboration and accelerating scientific and technical progress.

There are successful examples in this work, as well as substantial shortcomings. Many questions arise during the establishemnt of new forms of cooperation -- economic and legal questions which have still not been finally resolved. But, at the same time, there is frequently a lack of initiative or of a constructive approach to seeking mutually acceptable variants on the part of those "directly" involved in cooperation. Therefore examples of socialist enterprise and skillful actions and decisions on the spot are particularly important.

The seminar participants exchanged experience on work, on establishing and developing progressive forms of cooperation and visited the Moscow "Krasnyy Proletariy" Machine Tool Building Production Association, the "All-Union Cable Industry Scientific Research Institute" Science-and-production Association, and the All-Union Antiobiotics Scientific Research Institute. The seminar was addressed by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

BULGARIAN COMMISSION SUPPORTS SOVIET ARMS PROPOSAL

LD152242 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Sofia April 15 TASS -- The Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly of Bulgaria has approved a statement voicing unconditional support for the Soviet proposal for the elimination of the American and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe and for the reduction and total abolition of shorter-range missiles deployed in the continent. These timely steps, the statement notes, have been taken by the USSR at a time when the escalating nuclear arms race is pushing the world towards an abyss and making people, especially the Europeans, living in the continent with the largest stockpiles of nuclear and other weapons, more and more worried. The lack of tangible progress at ther disarmament talks adds to this worry. Meanwhile, the Soviet-American Reykjavik meeting demonstrated that nuclear disarmament was a reality.

The constructive proposals of the Soviet Union are offering opportunities for reaching an agreement of major political, military and psychological importance. It would make it possible to rid Europe of a large part of its deadly nuclear load and help advance towards a future without nuclear weapons, which is a dream of all people in the world. The Soviet proposals, once they are accepted, can give an impetus to the beginning of talks on reductions in the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.

The statement notes that improvements in the international situation call for the continuous efforts of all the countries, including small and medium-sized states. These are the goals of Bulgaria in its foreign policy, aimed at strengthening peace, security and promoting cooperation in the Balkans, in Europe and all over the world. Bulgaria's efforts to have a nuclear and chemical weapon-free zone established in the Balkans are a manifestation of this policy.

The foreign affairs commission expressed the hope that the latest Soviet initiatives would be welcomed with understanding and support by the parliamentary circles of interested countries. Now that there are signs of practical progress towards nuclear disarmament, artificial barriers cannot be allowed to be raised to an agreement on ridding Europe of nuclear weapons, the statement says. The BTA news agency reports that the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly of Bulgaria will send copies of its statement to the parliaments of the countries participating in the European Conference on Security and Cooperation.

ZORIN ASSAILS BBC FOR PROGRAM ON TROTSKIY

LD242056 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1810 GMT 24 Apr 87

[From 'The World Today' program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] And now I would like to tell you about a certain record, which does not simply just deserve a place in the well-known "Guinness Book of Records," but can, perhaps, eclipse all its other entries. As you know, this book which is named after and funded by a British brewing baron, contains all the most absurd records that exceed all normal limits. The other day, the editorial board of the BBC Russian Service set one of these absurd records.

This mouthpiece of big British bourgeoisie decided to stand up for who would you think? Leon Trotskiy! And not just to stand up for him. They said that the seriousness and the profundity of changes currently under way in the Soviet Union will be measured by the degree to which Trotskiy is going to be rehabilitated. No more and no less.

We will cast aside the silliness and bragging of the BBC editors who dare to tell us what and how we should evaluate our history; let us try to look into the motives of the British lament over Trotskiy and Trotskiyites. Not a single day passes without organs of bourgeois propaganda heaping one lie upon another in their campaign with regard to the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, with the purpose of slandering one of the greatest events of the 20th century, and to cast suspicion on it in every possible way. It is exactly with this goal in mind that they need today the name of one of the main enemies of Leninism, of a figure on whom a grave responsibility for many plights of the Russian revolution lies. But here is a telling fact. In their zeal, bourgeois propagandists have driven themselves into a corner.

How many angry words have Western media uttered concerning the rampage of terrorism, while trying, at the same time, to impute an active part in this disgusting phenomenon of today's world to the left. The Italian Red Brigades and similar anarchic gangs in France, the FRG, and other countries are presented, if not as communist organizations, then as organizations close to communists. Those who reflect -- quoting Lenin -- the ideology of petty bourgeois that have gone mad are being depicted to Western public opinion as representatives of the communist front. But, in this case, the BBC editors ought to remember that in many of the discovered secret headquarters of the Red Brigades and similar gangs, portraits of none other than Trotskiy were hanging on the walls, whereas murderers and terrorists acting today in west European countries hand in hand with neofascists are proclaiming themselves followers of precisely this figure, who today evokes propagandist ecstasy by the BBC.

Thus, trying to make another contribution to slandering Great October, leaders of bourgeois propaganda found themselves in a filthy smelling puddle.

FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER MARCHAIS VISITS

Arrives in Moscow

LD241748 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Georges Marchais, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, arrived here today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport the guest was met by Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; and other executives from the CPSU Central Committee.

Visits Volgograd Memorial

LD261348 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Volgograd April 26 TASS -- Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party, now on a visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, is staying for the second day in the city of Volgograd.

Today he continued his tour of the city and laid flowers in the Hall of Military Glory of the memorial to the heroes of the Stalingrad battle.

Over almost 20 years since the memorial was unveiled about 80 million people visited it to pay homage to the soldiers who died defending the city. Another worthy monument to the heroes is the city itself which rose from ruins.

Georges Marchais made a boat trip down the Volga River to see the panorama of the city stretching along the banks.

Meets Volgograd's Kalashnikov

LD261653 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 26 Apr 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Georges Marchais, the general secretary of the French Communist Party, who is in the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and who is making a trip through the country, has been acquainting himself with the Hero City on the Volga for 2 days.

A conversation was held in the obkom during which Comrade Kalashnikov, first secretary of Volgograd Obkom, briefed Georges Marchais on the work of the oblast party organization in restructuring, the acceleration of scientific-technological progress, and the fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

KIEV PARTY LEADER ATTENDS SPANISH CP CONGRESS

Delegation to Madrid 24 Apr

LD241803 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- A CPSU delegation left for Madrid today to attend the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain at the invitation of the party's leadership. The delegation is led by Grigoriy Revenko, first secretary of the Kiev regional committee of the Ukraine's Communist Party.

TASS Reports Opening Session

LD252215 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Madrid April 25 TASS -- The Second Congress of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain opened here today. The main report to the congress was made by the party General Secretary Ignacio Gallego. Our congress is being held at a time of the serious aggravation of the crisis of capitalism, the growth of the forces of socialism and communism, invigoration of the struggle of the peoples for national and social liberation, he said.

The Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened for the working class and the peoples of the whole world a way to liberation, continues exerting its profound impact on the course of world development. Socialism is a reality of the present-day world. It demonstrated for millions of people of the world to see that it is the only social system that can combine progress in science and technology with aspirations of the whole of mankind.

Ignacio Gallego touched upon questions of the international situation. He welcomed the peace proposals put forward by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbanchev, which open the way to disarmament, elimination of nuclear weapons, maintainance of peace and universal security. The latest Soviet proposals that nuclear weapons be prevented from outer space and that medium-range and shorter range nuclear missiles in Europe be eliminated convincingly demonstrate for all peoples to see that the Soviet Union is really working for ensuring durable world peace.

The speaker firmly denounced the Star Wars programme being speeded up by the U.S. Administration, as "the gravest threat to world peace', as "a new twist in the giant arms race spiral". SDI is leading mankind to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe, he stressed.

Ignacio Gallego called upon the Communists to step up the struggle for peace, for dismantling American military bases on Spanish soil and breaking off the bilateral treaty with the United States, for Spain's withdrawal from NATO and disbandment of military blocs, for nuclear disarmament in Europe, for the Mediterranean Sea and the Pyrenees Peninsula be announced nuclear weapons free zones. The speaker favourabley appraised the Spanish Government's decision to sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

The communists are bound to play the vanguard role in the struggle being waged by the working class, the working people for revolutionary transformation of society, he said. "Eurocommunism", which proved to be absolutely untenable, is the main cause of the crisis being experienced by the Spanish Communist movement. Being aware of the need for making progress towards unity of the Spanish communist movement, the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain calls upon all Communists without exception to hold a broad discussion on all disputable questions and to exert every effort in order to resolve these questions in the interests of the struggle for socialfism.

Proceedings Continue

LD261909 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Madrid April 26 TASS -- A debate on the report delivered by Ignacio Gallego, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain (PCPE), has been wound up at the current second PCPE congress here. The report has been approved by an overwhelming majority vote.

The congress has also discussed and adopted a political programme outlining the party's strategy and tactics and its objectives in the fight for political and social democracy, socialism in Spain, for peace and peaceful coexistence, social progress and cooperation among nations.

The triumph of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the founding of the USSR have been proof of the superiority of socialism over capitalism, have ushered in the epoch of building socialism and historical transition to communism, marked the beginning of the dawn [as received] of imperialism and its general crisis.

The USSR and the other socialist countries are today the main guarantee of peace on earth and the main barrier in the way of imperialism's hegemonistic and militaristic ambitions.

The PCPE holds that the struggle waged by the USSR and the other socialist countries for strengthening peace, in support of the national and social liberation of peoples, objectively accords with the interests of the working people of Spain.

Our party, the political programme says, sets high store by and supports the peace initiatives of the USSR and of the other socialist countries aimed at ensuring lasting peace, eliminating nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons, at general disarmament. The proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev at the Geneva and Reykjavik meetings demonstrate the USSR's determination to free the world from nuclear weapons. The main obstacle in the way to disarmament is the U.S. military-industrial complex.

Today the defence of peace is humanity's paramount objective, therefore it is urgent to invigorate the broad movement of peace champions for the right to life, for disarmament and peaceful coexistence, against the arms race and militarization of outer space.

The PCPE, which upholds the national interests, favours Spain's pull-out from NATO, the dismantling of the U.S. military bases in Spanish territory and canceling the bilateral treaty with the USA, pursuance by Spain of the policy of active neturality and nonalignment, disbandment of military blocs an ensuring for Spain the nuclear-free status for Spain, against the "Star Wars" programme, being stubbornly pursued by Washington.

The programme stresses that the PCPE is a party of the Leninist type based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The PCPE is a component part of the international communist movement.

We hold, the programme says, that in face of imperialist actions it is necessary to develop forms of greater unity and coordination of actions by the international communist movement.

Our party will further firmly and flexibly pursue the policy of uniting all the Spanish communists on the basis of the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin, drawing on the experience of the communist movement in Spain, of the international communist and working-class movement, rejecting both revisionism and opportunism, dogmatism and sectarianism.

SYRIAN OFFICIAL PRAISES BILATERAL TIES WITH MOSCOW

LD232336 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Damascus April 23 TASS -- Nasr al-Din al-Bahra [name as received], well-known Syrian publicist and deputy of the People's Council of Syria, has said today in an interview with TASS correspondent Vadim Shchennikov that meetings between Soviet and Syrian leaders have long become a good tradition. They have always promoted the consolidation of the ties of friendship and the deepening of cooperation between the two countries.

However, the current visit of President Hafiz al-Asad to Moscow will be of special importance for further mutual understanding and the consolidation of the positions of progressive countries in the region, because it is taking place at the time when the intrigues of the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces against the freedom-loving natioins of the Middle East have become much more active and sophisticated. We hope that in the course of the visit many problems will be resolved which are of interest not only for our two nations but aiso for the countries of the whole of the region, Nasr al-Din al-Bahra continued. These problems include the Middle East settlement and the Palestinian problem. He said that as a deputy of parliament he supported the Soviet initiatives aimed at convening an international conference on the Middle East under the aegis of the U.N. Syria supported as well the Soviet peace initiatives and proposals of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

He said in conclusion that they were sure that the visit of Hafiz al-Asad to Moscow would give a new impetus to a further strengthening of friendship between Syria and the Soviet Union and would promote a further consolidation of peace in their region.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT TO MOSCOW BY SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

Damascus Departure

LD231055 Moscow TASS in English 1039 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Damascus April 23 TASS -- The secretary general of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, president of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad has left today for Moscow on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

He is accompanied by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister, Minister of Defence Mustafa Talas, and other officials.

TASS Notes Moscow Welcome

LD231433 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party (Ba'th), president of the Syrian Arab Republic, arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

At the airport he was met by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, Sergey Sokolov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of defence of the USSR, Anatoliy; Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Damascus TV Reports Arrival

JN231834 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in the USSR this afternoon leading an official delegation on a visit of several days. The media team accompanying President Hafiz al-Asad sent us the following report:

[Begin recording] Good evening. President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Moscow at 1800 Moscow time, 1700 Damascus time, on an official and cordial visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Government. He was received at the airport by Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Anatoliy Dobrynin, Politburo candidate member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee [title as heard]; and the USSR ambassador in Damascus. [passage omitted on reception ceremony]

President Hafiz al-Asad and those who welcomed him then headed for the Kremlin where his excellency will stay. President Hafiz al-Asad was accorded an official welcome at St. George's Hall in the Kremlin. He was received by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary. After the president exchanged cordialities with Comrade Gorbachev, they departed hoping to meet tomorrow in accordance with the visit's schedule. It is noteworthy that St. George's, the name of the hall where the president was welcomed, means the victorious hero who does not know defeat.

The president is accompanied by an official delegation comprising Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and defense minister; Comrade Sa'id Hammadi, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Daniel Ni'mah, member of the Progressive National Front's Central Command. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Meets With Gorbachev

LD231551 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party (Ba'th), president of the Syrian Arab Republic, was met in a ceremony at St. George's Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace today. The Syrian leader was warmly welcomed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Shevardnadze, Counterpart Confer

LD241649 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1620 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 24 Apr (TASS) -- Issues relating to the further augmentation of joint efforts in the struggle to establish international securtiy, and the unblocking of regional conflicts were at the center of attention during a conversation held in Moscow today between Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, and his Syrian counterpart, Faruq al-Shar'. The Syrian minister is in the Soviet Union in connection with the official friendly visit by Hafiz al-Asad, president of Syria and general secretary of the Ba'th Party.

Faruq al-Shar' announced Syria's complete support for the Soviet Union's initiatives and its practical steps aimed at ensuring a radical change for the better in international affairs and at saving mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation. In discussing the situation in the Middle East the sides confirmed their resolve to persistently strive to establish a just and stable peace in the region.

Denouncing attempts by the United States and Israel to foist separate settlement plans on the Arabs, the two sides came out firmly in favor of the need for collective efforts to facilitate a Middle East settlement by means of convening an international conference. Stress was laid on the importance of taking vigorous measures toward this end without delay. The ministers also examined other issues relating to the current situation in the Middle East. The participants in the conversation confirmed their willingness to deepen their cooperation in international affairs and to coordinate the stances of the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic in the United Nations and other international organizations. They spoke out in favor of expanding the practice of bilateral political consultations on a broad range of issues of mutual interest.

Satisfaction was expressed by both sides with the exchange of opinions held, which passed in a friendly atmosphere.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE OF PNC SESSION IN ALGIERS

IZVESTIYA Cites Delegate

PM241853 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Neznamov dispatch under the "Facts, Events, Opinions" rubric: "In an Atmosphere of Unity"]

[Text] The Palestine National Council (PNC) session is continuing its work in Algiers. Leading organizations belonging to the PLO, the student body, the women's movement, and trade unions are all represented.

The session participants listened with great attention to the speech by V.N. Taratuta, head of the Soviet delegation. He said that the Soviet Union firmly and consistently supports the Palestinian people's just cause. Our country was one of the first to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, has done much to establish its status as such in the international arena, and has given and continues to give it multifaceted political, diplomatic, and material assistance.

He emphasized in his speech that the PLO has withstood the harsh ordeals that have befallen it, held out against the military and political onslaught from Israel and, behind Israel, the United States, and rejected their plans to force capitulatory decisions on the Palestinians. The events of recent years have convincingly confirmed that the PLO's strength lies in the unity of its ranks and in its close coordination and cooperation with other patriotic Arab forces, the socialist community countries, and all progressive forces throughout the world.

The head of the Soviet delegation noted that the PNC session taking place in Algiers creates a real opportunity to rally the PLO as the militant vanguard of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian resistance movement's unification on a principled, anti-imperialist basis is in the vital interests of the Palestinian people and creates favorable preconditions for them to intensify their struggle for their inalienable rights. This is particularly important now, when the movement in favor of convening an international conference on the Near East, in which the PLO must be an equal participant, is developing and strengthening throughout the world and when the Soviet Union's proposal to set up a preparatory committee on the convening of this conference involving the permanent members of the UN Security Council is meeting with broad support.

Qaddumi Report Summarized

PM241919 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent S. Filatov dispatch: "Unity -- the Important Factor"]

[Text] The commissions charged with formulating decisions on political, organizational, financial, and other issues are in session at the meeting of the Palestine National Council under way here. The discussion of the political report delivered by PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi is continuing.

He remarked that, overcoming their differences, the various detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement are currently concentrating their efforts on intensifying the struggle to implement the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Qaddumi called on the Arab states to step up their solidarity with the Palestinians. Most of the world community is convinced, he observed, that peace in the Near East cannot be achieved if the Palestinian people do not acquire the opportunity to implement their right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The report made a high assessment of the moves by friendly countries aimed at establishing peace in the region, and in particular the efforts to convene an international conference on the Near East under UN auspices and with the PLO's participation.

The session adopted a decision to grant a seat on the Palestine National Council to the Palestine Communist Party as a tested detachment of the Palestinian resistance movement.

Session Ends, Communist Elected

LD261439 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 26 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

The Palestinian National Council has ended its 18th session in Algiers.

The six-day meeting discussed the more pressing problems and tasks facing the Palestinian resistance movement at a difficult and crucial time in its development.

There is no doubt that the main result of the Algiers forum is a significant and weighty contribution to strengthening the unity of Palestinian ranks and rallying all detachments of the Palestinian revolution round the Palestine Liberation Organization -- the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people and their well-tested leader in the struggle for national self-determination.

The final documents of the session stressed the Palestinians' determination to carry on the struggle for their inalienable legitimate rights, including the right to set up an independent state of their own.

The forum flatly rejected any variants of separate deals and collusions behind the Palestinian people's backs and stressed the convening of a representative international conference with the participation of all sides concerned, including participation by the PLO on an equal footing with the others, as a realistic way of settling the Middle East crisis and solving the Palestinian problem.

Many delegates in their speeches harshly criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East and Washington's attempts together with its partner in the anti-Arab alliance, Tel Aviv, to subordinate the Middle Eastern region to imperialist-Zionist dictates.

The general political declaration of the session called for developing and strengthening in every way relations with socialist countries which have been giving all-round support to the Palestinian people's national liberation anti-imperialist struggle.

It is noteworthy that a representative of the Palestinian Communist Party, which is active in the Palestinian resistance movement, has been made a member of the PLO Executive Committee for the first time.

The Palestinian National Council's session in Algiers has dealt a crushing blow to plans by imperialist and Zionist quarters to undermine the resistance movement from within, widen disagreements between its individual detachments and ultimately remove the Palestinian problem from the order of the day.

It has also demonstrated that the Palestinian problem remains the core of the Middle East conflict and that peace in the region cannot be achieved without finding a fair solution to this problem.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES DOMESTIC, FOREIGN ISSUES

PM241123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] At a session held on 23 April, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined in accordance with the instructions of the 27th party congress a range of questions concerning the restructuring of the financial and credit mechanism and pricing system, with the aim of creating conditions for the transition to economic methods of management and putting into effect the provisions contained in the Draft Law on State Enterprises.

During the discussion, it was emphasized that the new mechanism of financing, providing credit, and pricing must in every way promote the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and the introduction of achievements in scientific-technical progress, the growth of the intensification of production and the economy of resources. It must ensure the combination of general state, collective, and personal interests, and the unswerving implementation of the party's line toward raising the prosperity of Soviet people. The improvement of this work must help to raise economic efficiency and promote the introduction of the principles of full financial autonomy, self-financing, and self-recouping of associations and enterprises. It is intended to radically alter the mutual relations between enterprises and the state budget and put them on a normative basis; they are to be freed from petty tutelage and detailed regimentation on the part of the financial bodies. Stress is laid on the need to improve financial and economic work at all management levels and to enhance the responsibility of ministries and departments for the state of finances and the results of management in the branches of industry.

The role and responsibility of banks in implementing the party's economic strategy is to be enhanced, and their influence on economic development is to be intensified. Measures are envisaged for turning credit into an effective economic lever under the new conditions of management, and for unfailing observance of the fundamental principles of the provision of credit [kreditovaniye], as well as for strengthening payment discipline and preventing the use of credit to cover up losses and bad management. Methods have been determined for further improving the structure of the banking system; for transferring credit institutions to financial autonomy; and for improving the style and methods of work.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined and approved the results of the talks between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the PPR State Council, during his friendly visit to the USSR.

The declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the field of ideology, science, and culture signed during the talks significantly advances the entire complex of cooperation between the two countries in this important sphere of society's life. Deep restructuring in the USSR and the policy of socialist renewal being carried out in the PPR create favorable prerequisites for vigorous interaction and exchange of experience between the public organizations, creative unions, scientific institutions, and ministries and departments of the fraternal countries, and for broad contacts among their working people.

The accords achieved during the visit on the issues of further deepening economic cooperation and direct links between Soviet and Polish enterprises were approved. Satisfaction with the unity of approach to cardinal issues of international policy, disarmament, and the strengthening of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world was expressed. The Politburo gave specific instructions regarding the implementation of the main provisions of the declaration and the development of other lines of Soviet-Polish cooperation.

The Politburo heard a report by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on the conversation with Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, who was in the USSR on a friendly visit. The community of the approach of the USSR and Ethiopia to today's key problems and a mutual striving toward further developing and deepening cooperation between our countries were noted with satisfaction.

Information by Comrade Demichev on the visit by a Soviet state delegation to the Republic of Iraq was examined and certain other issues connected with the implementation of the decisions by the 27th Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum were discussed at the session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION ON MUNICIPAL SERVICES

PM221053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 87 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On Measures To Further Improve the Work of the Country's Housing and Municipal Services."

The resolution notes that the population's housing conditions and services are improving constantly as a result of large-scale housing construction and the development of municipal services. Housing and municipal services have become a major sector of the social sphere in which one-fourth of the country's fixed assets are concentrated.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have instructed union republic Communist Party central committees, party kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, soviet krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms, ministries and departments, leaders and party organizations of establishments, and labor collectives of housing and municipal services enterprises to ensure the further improvement of housing and municipal services work and the considerable improvement of services for the population. They are to ensure that existing shortcomings are eliminated as soon as possible and that priority is given to the construction of municipal services facilities. They are to regard the transformation of housing and municipal services into a highly mechanized and reliable sector of the national economy as one of the most important tasks.

Measures are to be implemented to staff housing and municipal services enterprises with skilled cadres, to create the necessary production and housing and consumer conditions for them, to raise the standard of production and the professional skill of workers and their responsibility for the results of their labor.

The population and enterprise labor collectives must be extensively involved in work to ensure the preservation and exemplary maintenance of apartment blocks and of municipal, social, and cultural facilities and to provide amenities on land attached to apartment blocks by utilizing the progressive experience of organizing this work which exists here and in other socialist countries.

It is established that union republic councils of ministers bear full responsibility for the state of and comprehensive development of housing and municipal services. The USSR Gosstroy is given the responsibility for ensuring scientific and technical progress in this sector.

It is deemed necessary to accelerate the transfer to local soviets' control of city housing stock belonging to enterprises, institutions, and organizations of ministries and departments as well as municipal facilities and the utilities network not connected with the servicing of industrial enterprises.

During 1987-1988, union republic councils of ministers and USSR ministries and departments are instructed to set up emergency technical services in cities to provide centralized support for work to eliminate defects and accidental damage affecting the housing stock and municipal, social, and cultural facilities by concentrating within them the necessary stocks of material resources and general purpose equipment, economically accountable subunits for the regulation, servicing, and repair of automatic and remote controlled technical facilities used in housing and municipal services as well as integrated services for protecting utilities against electrochemical corrosion.

To improve the planning and financing of housing and municipal services, the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Gossnab, the USSR Gosstroy, and USSR ministries and departments are instructed to ensure that the draft 5-year and annual plans for the union republics' economic and social development provide for the comprehensive development of cities and the satisfaction of housing and municipal services' requirements for material and technical resources for operational and repair needs including resources to replace damaged heat, water, and gas supply lines. Beginning with the 13th 5-Year Plan, they are also instructed to allocate to municipal services construction in cities capital investments equal to not less than one-third of the capital investments earmarked for housing construction.

It is planned to transfer housing and municipal services enterprises and organizations to new economic management methods. It is also planned to provide a system of additional measures to broaden their rights and increase their responsibility for the end results of work and to ensure labor collectives' interest in the quality of services provided to the population and in the thrifty use of material and technical resources.

To improve the material and technical backup and introduce the achievements of scientific and technical progress into housing and municipal services, the corresponding ministries and departments are instructed to begin in 1988 the allocation of resources, machinery, and transport facilities on the basis of the prescribed norms. The above-plan output produced in the republics for the needs of this sector may be placed at the disposal of union republic councils of ministers and the Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers noted that the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building; the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems; and the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy showed a lack of discipline in meeting previous targets for the production of machines, mechanisms, equipment, instruments, and heating supply pipes. Specific quantities and itemized output lists have been drawn up for the years ahead and targets have been approved for the development, testing, and series production of new types of municipal services equipment. From 1988 it is planned to increase the production of high-quality machines, equipment, and instruments for housing and municipal services with a view to the complete satisfaction of the sector's needs for them in the 13th 5-Year Plan.

Targets have been drawn up for implementing priority measures aimed at increasing the reliability of city energy and heat supply systems, ensuring their steady operation, particularly in fall and winter, and replacing all damaged heating supply lines and carrying out prompt preventive and repair work.

Union republic housing and municipal services ministries are empowered to monitor the technical condition and preparedness for winter operation of housing and municipal services facilities irrespective of their departmental jurisdiction.

It is planned to implement a package of measures to improve the organization of work in the running, repair, and modernization of the housing stock and social and cultural facilities including the creation of contractual specialized repair and construction organizations to carry out the modernization or capital repair in cities and settlements of apartment blocks (irrespective of departmental jurisdiction) and other local soviet social facilities.

The resolution lays down measures to improve the working conditions for housing and municipal services workers and ensure the high quality of output, work, and services as well as the training of cadres for this sector.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that labor collectives of housing and municipal services enterprises and organizations, local soviet ispolkoms, union and autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, and USSR ministries and departments will take effective measures to restructure the organization and management of housing and municipal services, to comprehensively improve the sector's work, and on this basis ensure a considerable improvement in the population's housing and municipal services.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS NOTES ECONOMY'S 'SHORTCOMINGS'

LD241641 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1540 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 24 Apr (TASS) -- A session of the USSR Council of Ministers today examined the results of the fulfillment of the state plan for economic and social development in the USSR, the USSR state budget over the first quarter, and tasks on ensuring fulfillment of the plan and budget for the current year. It made a thorough analysis of the state of affairs in the economy. It was noted that the national economy has developed in an irregular manner during the first quarter. A sharp slump occurred in January. A number of ministries, departments, councils of ministers of union republics, and many enterprises associations, and organizations proved to be unprepared to work in conditions of growing exactingness and economic activity.

As a result of the strengthening of organizational and political work in accordance with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and the adoption of effective measures to improve the work of ministries and departments and to tighten links in the economy which were lagging behind, the situation which had been created in the national economy has essentially been corrected.

In March, a reduction in growth rates, which had been permitted at the beginning of the year, was overcome to a significant degree. Work on completing production which had not been delivered was begun. Industry moved onto average daily rates corresponding to the level of the year's commitments, raising the volume of production in the process by 6 percent.

The quarterly plan was overfulfilled by the fuel and power, and agro-industrial complexes. The volume of agricultural production rose by 8.7 percent by comparison with the first quarter of last year.

Production and purchases of livestock farming products rose. Further raising of the people's well-being was ensured. Average monthly salaries of workers and office staff increased, as did payment for the labor of kolkhoz workers.

However, the lagging-behind could not be completely eliminated. The plan tasks of the first quarter were not fulfilled on many indices. Compared with the same period last year, the overall volume of industrial production grew by only 2.5 percent, which is below the plan.

Major shortcomings continue to occur in the work of the machinebuilding, chemical-timber processing complexes, and in light industry.

The unfavorable situation which has emerged in a number of sectors of the social sphere is cause for particular alarm. The tasks for the production of cultural consumer goods and for the overall volume of retail trade turnover and marketing of everyday services to the population were not fulfilled. The plan for bringing into operation pre-school establishments, out-patients' and health centers, clubs, culture centers, and other projects was disrupted.

The USSR Council of Ministers, evaluating the results of the development of the national economy during the first quarter, declared them unsatisfactory. It stressed that results reached do not meet the party's high demands for a radical restructuring in the economy.

It was suggested that the main efforts should be concentrated on ensuring the unconditional fulfillment of obligations under supply contracts by associations and enterprises, on a fuller utilization of production potential, and on changing labor collectives over to a two- and three-shift mode of operation. Particular attention was paid to the need to intensify scientific and technical progress, to raise the quality of output, and to intensify the policy of saving resources.

The session was addressed by Nilolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1630 GMT on 24 April carries a report on the 24 April Council of Ministers meeting which adds: "Taking part in the work of the session were Comrades Aliyev, Slyunkov, and Talyzin."]

ALIYEV ATTENDS FETE FOR SOVIET COMPOSER

LD250216 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] An evening devoted to the 80th anniversary of the birth of the outstanding Soviet composer Vasiliy Pavlovich Solovyev-Sedov was held in the Colonnaded Hall of the House of the Unions today. [passage omitted]

Comrade Aliyev attended the evening.

VOROTNIKOV DELIVERS REPORTS AT RSFSR SESSIONS

13 Apr Session

LD132239 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] At a session of the RSFSR Council of Ministers today, the tasks of local-soviet and economic bodies in the RSFSR on the implementation of the directives of the CPSU Central Committee January 1987 Plenum on restructuring and cadre policy were examined. Comrade Vorotnikov delivered a report. The progress of restructuring in the republic was analyzed in a critical and thorough manner. The need was stressed in the report and in the speeches for a fundamental improvement in the work in selecting, placing and educating cadres, constantly enhancing their responsibility for tasks entrusted to them, and creating everywhere a situation of mutual exactingness, firm discipline, and sense of organization. Indication was given of the need to perfect labor and production organization, to implement measures to raise labor productivity and improve the utilization of capacities, and to increase the coefficient of the ratio [smennost] of work and equipment.

The executive committees of local soviets of people's deputies were instructed to make full use of the rights allocated to them in providing the comprehensive socioeconomic development of territories.

25 Apr Session

LD252101 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Today an all-RSFSR meeting was held in the RSFSR Council of Ministers. The meeting addressed the tasks of the local soviet and economic bodies of the RSFSR for the improvement of capital construction in light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January 1987 Plenum. Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, delivered a report.

He noted that in the RSFSR an extensive program for capital construction is being implemented. Recently, the growth rate in the volume of implemented works has somewhat increased. Productivity has risen.

At the same time, it was noted that restructuring is slowly being implemented in the industry. Plans for realizing state capital investments and for systematically putting the main funds into operation have failed to be implemented. The change over to the economic methods of management has failed to proceed in the industry at an appropriate pace.

The wasting of capital investment has not been overcome. The importance of modernization and technological upgrading at operating enterprises is underestimated. The quality of designing and construction remains low. Many problems in city construction, architecture, and social reorganization of the village have not been resolved. Special attention was paid to the fact that it was necessary to develop the industry of the construction materials in a very rapid way and to overcome serious lagging behind in the up-grading of technology at enterprises as well as to expand the production of local construction materials.

The setting up of design and construction associations calling for the implementation of mass industrial construction of installations from the beginning to the moment of handing them over with a key, must become an important element in restructuring.

Ministries, departments, local soviet, and economic bodies have been set the task of implementing additional measures for the radical restructuring of their style and methods of work.

Comrade Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the meeting.

SEVERAL LEADERS ATTEND STANDARDS CONFERENCE

LD252336 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] A conference took place today at the CPSU Central Committee at which matters relating to enhancing the technical standards and the reliability of power engineering equipment and the quality of its use in operation were examined. Reports were delivered by Comrade Mayorets, minister of power and electrification, Comrade Velichko, minister of power machine building; and Comrade Kolmogorov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Standards.

Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who also spoke at the conference, stressed that one of the central tasks was providing the power generating sector more fully with equipment of high quality and reliability and accelerating the setting up of new highly efficient power sets.

Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the conference. He noted that the core of restructuring in the developoent of power engineering, its main task, lies in the uncompromising eradication of all manifestations of a bureaucratic approach. He noted that the sooner we rid practical work of a bureaucratic approach the quicker the entire state's task for providing the national economy with a stable power and heat supply system will be resolved. The further qualitative development of power engineering, and success in the fulfillment of the country's power engineering program are only possible with the concerted actions of the machine builders and their allied enterprises, the power engineers and the builders.

Comrades Maslyukov, Silayev, Tolstykh, and Shcherbina, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, participated in the work of the conference.

DEMICHEV, RAZUMOVSKIY ATTEND COMMISSION MEETING

LD210404 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Text] At today's joint session of the Standing Commissions for Legislative Proposals of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the question was discussed of the practice of the application of the Decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on strengthening the struggle against obtaining non-labor incomes in the Chechen-Ingush ASSR. In the adopted resolution, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers of the Chechen-Ingush ASSR, and the local soviets are recommended to elaborate and implement additional measures of an economic, organizational, educative, and legal character in order to put up a reliable barrier to non-labor incomes.

The session also included reports of the commissions concerning the progress of the execution of the resolution of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the execution by the state bodies in Vinnitsa Oblast of the legislation aimed at overcoming drunkenness. The session was conducted by Comrade Razumovskiy, chairman of the Commission for Legislative Proposals of the Soviet of the Union and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Taking part in the work of the commissions were Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and Comrade Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

SOKOLOV SPEAKS AT MINSK AKTIV MEETING

LD142341 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] This year, many enterprises in Belorussia have been working in new conditions. However, restructuring has not become a priority matter for everyone everywhere -- from the director to the worker. This was spoken of today in Minsk at a meeting of the republic's party economic aktiv. Tasks concerning the transfer of industry to total financial autonomy and self-financing were discussed. Taking part in the meeting's work was Comrade Sokolov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party.

SOLOVYEV ATTENDS LAUNCH OF RESTORED SHIP

LD181122 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 Apr 87

[Text] The pennants raised on the cruiser Aurora are flapping in the Baltic wind. On the morning of the Leninist Communist Subbotnik the ship, after a break of almost 2 years, again slipped into the waters of the Neva. A ceremony dedicated to this event was held at the Zhdanov Shipyard, where the restoration of the priceless relic of October is being carried out. Party veterans, representatives of industrial enterprises, naval sailors, and Komsomol members took part in it. Admiral of the Fleet Chernavin, Solovyev, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, took part in the formal launch ceremony for the Aurora.

YELTSIN, OTHERS ATTEND YOUNG PIONEER FESTIVAL

PM211543 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "With the Komsomol Forever!"]

[Excerpts] A pleasant surprise lay in store for the delegates and guests of the 20th Komsomol Congress in the "Dinamo" sports palace where a grand festival spectacular was held 15 April. [passage omitted]

The festival ended with a big Pioneer bonfire. The hands of children and adults, who always wear the flame of the revolution -- the red necktie or Komsomol badge -- on festival days, rose together in a salute.

Comrades B.N. Yeltsin, Yu.F. Solovyev, A.P. Biryukova, and G.P. Razumovskiy attended the festival.

YAKOVLEV ADDRESSES TAJIK INTELLIGENTSIA

PM161155 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS Report: "Restructuring and Public Consciousness"]

[Text] The tasks of restructuring and activating public consciousness under the conditions of the qualitative advances in the development of Soviet society and the role of the social sciences in the theoretical consideration of what is taking place and in educational work were the subject of a thorough talk at a meeting in Dushanbe between the scientific and artistic intelligentsia and N. Yakovlev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The speakers -- A. Tursunov, director of the Tajik SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oriental Studies; poet G. Safiyeva; V.N. Naumov, chief editor of KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA; Kh. Nazarov, chairman of the board of the Tajikistan Cinematographers Union; and S. Tabarov, State University department chief -- spoke of the progress of restructuring in the spiritual sphere of how the turn toward modern problems of life is slowly proceeding. The problems of ideological work were keenly raised and the need was stressed for drastic changes in this work in light of the new tasks facing the republic.

The gathering was addressed by A.N. Yakovlev. Nearly 2 years have elapsed since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum opened a new page in our life, he said. A great deal for the country and the party and for each one of us has been packed into this, by and large, brief period. This great deal is defined by one brief, simple word -- restructuring.

And if, in comparing the present day with the not so distant past, we ask what has really and most tangibly changed in this time, I would answer: Above all, we ourselves. Our social ambit has widened. We can see the past and the present more fully and precisely and the future more realistically. We still have a lot to learn, but we have learned, understood, and felt a great deal as well. We have become wiser through experience and more mature but younger in our hearts, feelings, and hopes.

Restructuring is not a denial of the past, but a denial of that part of the past which we cannot, which we do not have the right to take with us into the future. And not by virtue of any subjective preferences or antipathies but because particular obstacles could delay our headway, drag us back, or simply prevent us from entering the future. In other words, we must unfailingly overcome the existing mechanism delaying socioeconomic development which has acquired a powerful force of inertia which has already shown its ability to generate stagnation.

People may ask: But is it not better not to rush events? No, comrades, it is intolerable and senseless to remain on positions of passiveness, alienation, and indifferent contemplation.

It is intolerable for many reasons. After all because we are the first society in history to consciously develop itself, to improve its internal links and relations, and not to drift.

Our society has every prerequisite for conscious, creative activity: fundamentally new socioeconomic foundations; a highly developed scientific-technical and economic potential; and a party armed with the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism and its methodology.

We have become far stronger both materially and spiritually. Through the efforts of generations, living conditions today are totally different. The problems inherited from the old society have been resolved. Our international positions are firm and authoritative and our defense is reliable. The necessary stock of strength has thus been created enabling society to proceed toward a new quality.

But all these assets will not work of their own accord and will not advance automatically. We must know how to use them, that is we must work, and work creatively, not only considering what we are used to but also the new elements constantly emerging.

In addition, it is simply foolish to rely on the trial of time. In fact, it has already taken place and has passed its sentence. Restructuring is historically necessary and therefore inevitable. Aimed at accelerating socioeconomic development, it leads to a new qualitative state of society and is imperiously invading life, although it is depriving many people of their peace but is exciting thought and social activeness and stimulating initiative and enterprise.

The strategy of acceleration relies in its theoretical justification on the rehabilitation of the truly Marxist understanding of the "mechanism" of operation of the laws of social development. Acceleration is not only and not so much an answer to the question of how to increase the pace of economic and scientific-technical development; it is the search for effective ways and means of ensuring that within the foreseeable future socialist society becomes the embodiment of all that is progressive and humane in world social progress and a model of social efficiency and spiritual wealth.

The idea of a new qualitative state for socialist society prompts an understanding of the problem of creation as the dialectically contradictory process of people's activity in which not only the form but also the essence of socialism are developed. "It is not only phenomena which are transient," V.I. Lenin used to say. "Essences too are mobile, unstable, and separated by only hypothetical borders..."

The tasks of restructuring in the sphere of public consciousness are therefore particularly complex. It is persistently necessary to increase social activeness and develop the masses' creation. The ideological-theoretical foundation of restructuring must be strengthened. A constant quest must be conducted for answers to the numerous and complex questions life poses. The appearance of problems, bottlenecks, and difficulties must be predicted and they must be forecast -- and the cause of restructuring and the course toward acceleration must thereby be promoted. That is the main direction of work.

Another no less important matter is to overcome the processes and phenomena in the sphere of actual consciousness which have been engendered by the practice of recent decades and which cannot be tolerated. Negative trends have grown over a long time without encountering sufficiently effective resistance. This time was so long that a generation had time to take shape whose professional and personal formation proceeded under the deforming influence of stagnation.

Dogmatism occupies a special place in the general ranks of diseases that have afflicted the spiritual sphere and scientific thought; a special place in terms of the scale on which it spread, the power of its deadening impact, and the degree to which it threatens the course toward acceleration, because by its very nature dogmatism denies development.

Dogmatic thinking is the inability or reluctance to embrace the phenomena of the objective world in all their fullness and dynamism and the contradictoriness of their development. It presents the surrounding world as an ossified formation and science as a collection of infallible "truths" and premises.

It is clear dogmatism is not a scientific theory but a life stance dictated by personal and group interests. Its thrust as a social phenomenon lies in the influence of dogmatic thinking on the actual organization of society's spiritual life and the processes of its progression. From this viewpoint dogmatism can correctly be described as authoritarian thinking promoted to the rank of a political, moral, and intellectual principle. This social function fully accords with the interests of those not interested in development, who are personally suited by the customary and convenient status quo, and who do not want to respond or cannot respond to the challenges of the time and the new phenomena of life. Ideological-theoretical backup for restructuring presupposes breaking up dogmatism -- that essential element of the delaying mechanism in public consciousness.

Socialist democracy is an effective accelerator of consciousness' orientation to the wavelength of revolutionary changes, and not only as the most progressive form of managing the life of society and an effective means against any antisocial manifestations. Democracy, when it does not remain a matter of words alone but is implemented, is the most reliable mechanism for education. Both social experience and trust in man form an active life stance. This trust generates a sense of responsibility, committed participation, initiative, and staunchness in attaining set goals.

Let's take culture and cultural policy. Nowhere else perhaps have we had so many dogmatic prejudices as in this area. Questions relating to what people could and allegedly could not talk or write about, make movies about, or stage shows about were decided with the soullessness of officialdom. And what was the result? It turned out that the artificial restrictions, the secretive atmosphere in which they were born led to the consolidation of the monopoly of individual people, groups, and genres to the detriment of others.

Artistic creation serves social requirements -- for emotional self-consideration, self-awareness, and self-assessment. This is the need of society and man for self-improvement. Art prompts feelings of sympathy, compassion, and empathy. Artistic penetration to the essence of daily life and the ability to break out of its confines and to put into circulation broader social, moral, and temporal criteria -- those are the demands made on real art and, at the same time, are the signs of real art. Without this hard and sometimes agonizing work there is not and cannot be moral progress or spiritual cleansing and development either for the individual or for society as a whole.

The speaker then dwelled on the role of the social sciences as an effective antidote to the technocratic system of thinking that has taken deep root in the consciousness of economic workers and a section of the scientific-technical intelligentsia. The times demand that every economic, operational, and technical decision be subjected to a kind of humanitarian examination and that its human purport, if you like, its human orientation, be revealed.

The widespread dissemination of the technocratic approach to the solution of many problems, including strictly social problems, is originally linked with the grave underestimation of the role and importance of the social sciences. Even today the approach originating in vulgar economism has not been eliminated. The solution of national economy and production and technical tasks is perceived and interpreted as the direct and immediate solution of social tasks. The system of economic management sometimes receives actual priority over the system of management of society as a whole.

The task of social sciences expressed in the most general terms is to give an integral concept, a "working blueprint," of restructuring not only on each sector of restructuring but also in the unity and interconnection of all spheres of society's activity. We must not eulogize restructuring but elaborate it in practice, at ground level, and fit it into the long-term concept of society's development.

But even this does not exhaust the tasks of the social sciences. Their public service is broader: They are called on to make a decisive contribution to the creation and consolidation of the climate of intellectual dynamism in our society, a society which thinks and considers the most complex alternatives and reassesses values, the social sciences must play a leading role in this collective thought process.

Essentially it is a case of the urgent need of political, economic, and ideological practice for a substantial advance in theoretical research throughout the spectrum of the sciences of society and man. Are there objective prerequisites for this? Undoubtedly. Here these prerequisites go beyond the framework of a purely pragmatic, utilitarian meaning. There are every grounds for supposing that we are somewhere at the very beginning of a qualitatively new stage in the practice and theory of socialism..

The party made a tremendous contribution to Marxist-Leninist theory from April 1985 to January 1987 -- an extraordinarily full and fruitful period on the ideological and political plane. The 27th party congress was an end as well as a beginning. It was an end to the searching, analysis, deliberations, and breakthroughs on decisive sectors of theory and practice and of scientific socialism. It also was a new vision of socialism and the paths and prospects of its progress and a new generalized analysis of the world today. The Central Committee resolution on the journal KOMMUNIST, M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the conference of social scientists, and the January plenum are the enrichment and specific embodiment of the concept of restructuring: The start of a new quest, a new stage in constructive, creative work.

As Lenin taught, revolutionary theory "cannot be thought up, it grows out of the sum total of revolutionary experience and revolutionary thought of all countries of the world." The concept of acceleration grew from the consideration of the fundamental problems of the country's development and the generalization of world experience.

Nor can theoretical work overlook a fundamental element like the nonaxiomatic nature of social knowledge; it is dictated by several circumstances. Society itself -- the object and subject of social congnition -- is in constant movement and development.

The nonaxiomatic nature of social knowledge is very closely linked with the ability of the person, of classes and groups, and of society as a whole to accumulate, generalize, and use experience. People's entire conscious activity rests on this ability, but it has another side, too. In a more complex, more developed, more educated society the forms of the organization of its activity should be adequate. On the other hand, the past attests that, if any negative phenomena arise and are retained in society long enough, they can also generate "their own" experience that can deform social relations or a particular part of them.

Without exception all aspects of our internal life are in need of theoretical consideration at a new qualitative level. But the real dialectic of the development of society in the restructuring process should be put in a special place. Conscious historical creation also raises the problem of the controllability of this process, including the need to elaborate and create an effective feedback system in society. [paragraph continues]

So far this feedback is operating to a considerable extent without control. The costs here -- both material and, which is more important, human and spiritual -- are considerable.

An all-around study is needed of paths, ways, and means of actively shaping the needs of various strata of society and the socialist way of life as a whole. In this context we must study the sources and nature of various deviations under the conditions of socialism. We need reliable theoretical substantiations of the interests of the classes, strata, and collectives, as well as ways of further consolidating the ideological and social unity of society. There is also the question of what the socialist mechanism of motivation should be like.

There is a colossal ideological and moral potential in the questions brought by the final decades of the 20th century: the struggle for peace and survival, the humanization of the scientific and technical revolution, the development of the sea bed and of space and as a result the conservation of nature, the attitude toward our cultural heritage, and much else.

Life forces us also to approach anew the study of the processes of world development itself. The CPSU proceeds from the premise that the changes in this development are so deep and all-encompassing that they require serious reconsideration, a comprehensive assessment of all this development's new factors and trends, a new view of the state of world affairs, and a considerable intensification of its theoretical analysis.

Two important provisions have become the nucleus of the scientific concept of the modern world elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress. /First, it was noted mankind has now entered a special, critical period of historical development. This period for the first time faced mankind in earnest with the tragic choice between life and self-annihilation. Second, the search for ways of leading mankind out of this situation concentrated theoretical thought on an in-depth study of the modern world in all its diversity and contradictoriness and at the same time its certain degree of wholeness. The urgent need to resolve the most vital task of survival is generating in mankind powers of self-preservation and creating in the opposing social systems incentives to collaborate commensurate with the demands of the nuclear age.

The concept of new political thinking is geared to constant renewal and to new approaches in domestic and foreign affairs and in the economy, science and technology, the social sphere, and ideology. The quest for the new and its timely consideration to maximize positive effects and minimize possible losses is the unshakable norm of the party's work in both theory and practice.

In conclusion, A.N. Yakovlev spoke of the profound link between the theoretical aspects of restructuring and the new processes of world development and of the changes in world public opinion taking place under the influence of the domestic life of the Soviet socialist society and the USSR's foreign policy initiatives, whose implementation through the efforts of all sides could fundamentally alter the world situation and guarantee mankind's survival.

A.N. Yakovlev answered numerous questions from the gathering.

A.N. Yakovlev was in the Tajik SSR from 6 to 9 April. The CPSU Central Committee secretary took part in the work of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee.

During his visit to the Nurek GES A.N. Yakovlev displayed interest in the hydraulic construction workers working and daily living conditions, the reliability of the equipment's operation, and prospects for the development of hydraulic power engineering in the republic. The CPSU Central Committee secretary visited the Nurek City Library named for the friendship of the peoples.

The importance of achieving advances in the solution of problem of the sociocultural sphere was stressed at a meeting with the collective of Dushanbe's "Tadzhiktektsilmash" production association. In Leninskiy Rayon, A.N. Yakovlev was familiarized with the rural workers life.

A.N. Yakovlev visited the Tajikistan Academy of Sciences Institute of Oriental Studies' collection of oriental manuscripts. In a talk with the republic's leading scholars and writers there was a discussion of the problems of the mutual influence and mutual enrichment of the fraternal cultures and the fuller use of the people's cultural heritage in people's communist education and spiritual improvement.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary visited the Tajik SSR exhibition of national economic achievements.

There was a meeting with members of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary laid flowers at the monument to V.I. Lenin in Dushanbe.

K.M. Makhkhamov, first secretary of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee, was with A.N. Yakovlev on his tour of the republic.

YAKOVLEV ATTENDS FORUM ON RESTRUCTURING

LD180208 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 17 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" Newscast]

[Text] A debate on the subject of restructuring and social consciousness was held today at an all-union conference of social scientists in Moscow. Taking part in the work of the conference were leading Soviet historians, economists, teachers, lawyers, philosophers, sociologists and representatives of other branches of the social sciences. Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yakovlev addressed the scientists. A report on the work of the conference is to be published in the press.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER POSTPONES VISIT TO WEST GERMANY

LD231618 Hamburg DPA in German 1556 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Bonn -- Soviet Agricultural Minister Vsevolod Murakhovskiy is to provisionally shift his visit to the FRG, planned for the start of May, to the second half of the year. As a spokesman of the Federal Food Ministry announced today in Bonn, Murakhovskiy has to reschedule his visit due to difficulties in spring tilling for Soviet agriculture. A crisis headquarters has had to be established as a result of the long winter, and he was therefore unavailable, Murakhovskiy's refusal says. The German-Soviet specialists' group for agriculture, which comes together for its next session in June, will firm up the date of the visit.

AGROPROM ANALYZES EARLY PRODUCTION RESULTS

LD231440 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1419 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] In Moscow today, a session of the USSR Gosagroprom collegium analyzed the results of economic and social development of the country's agro-industrial complex in the first quarter of this year. It was noted here that gross agricultural production increased by 8.7 percent as compared to the first quarter of the first year [of the 5-year plan]. Labor productivity has increased by 9.5 percent and livestock and poultry procurement by 10 percent, while that of milk by 8 percent.

Agroprom's industrial enterprises increased goods production. At the same time, it was noted that the achieved results did not fully meet the requirements put forward by the party and the government. The volume of livestock and poultry procurement fell at virtually every third farm in the country. Sales of milk went down at more that 12,000 farms. So, the livestock workers' successes could have been significantly greater. Specialized farms sold less hothouse and early vegetables than last year. Production plan for canned vegetables was not fulfilled. In the RSFSR significant lagging has been permitted in the production of the quickly-frozen products. Reintroduced capacities in the food industry are being used inefficiently in a number of places. The session of the collegium analyzed the existing shortcomings and laid down measures for their elimination.

RESOURCE POTENTIAL PLANNING METHOD REVIEWED

PM231037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 2

["Agricultural Review" By V. Gavrichkin: "The Plan and Resources"]

[Text] Sowing in the country's southern regions is having a difficult start. The prolonged cold weather delayed to a considerable extent the onset of field work. Now, to meet the optimal sowing times and for certain crops even simply to meet the agriculturally permissible times, arable farmers are having to carry out in 1 day a range of work that they would normally spend 2-3 days doing. That is the only way to make up the lost time and meet the targets.

And there is a good deal to do. Some 150 million hectares of spring crops alone have to be sown. Moreover, the winter crops still need care and attention. Soon after, almost without a breathing space, the late crops's turn will come: sunflowers, cotton, corn, and potatoes. Intensively cultivated fields need particular care: The area of intensively cultivated land, including spring crops cultivated by intensive techniques, will amount to 36 million hectares.

The agricultural output target workers in the agro-industrial complex are counting on achieving in the 2d year of the 5-year plan is a high one. It is planned to obtain, for example, at least 232 million tonnes of grain crops, 7.6 million tonnes of oil-bearing seeds, 92 million tonnes of sugar beets, and 148 million tonnes of forage expressed in terms of feed units. It is also planned to increase the production of other kinds of output.

The tasks are not simple, but they are realistic. Since the agro-industrial complex possesses virtually all the resources needed to solve them. It is now important to bring the resources into operation: to deliver them, bring them into readiness, and make rational use of them. It is here that hitches most often occur.

Even at the end of March, for example, accounting figures show that mineral fertilizers had still not been shipped in the planned qualtities to kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Orenburg, Rostov, and a number of other RSFSR oblasts. Yet timing is of the essence: The farmers need to introduce the fertilizer into the soil at the same time as they sow the seeds! In Kurgan and Sverdlovsk Oblasts seed preparation is proceeding slowly. Many farms have not yet obtained the seed grain allocated them from state resources, although agronomists must be aware that work with seed is poorly organized at Ministry of Grain Products enterprises: The grain obtained from the elevator in exchange cannot be loaded into the seeders straightaway. Thousands of tractors, plows, cultivators, and other machinery hve not yet been brought into operation.

There is probably no need to list everything, since it is as clear as day that if something is not obtained, laid in, or prepared, you should no longer delay but must go all out and work quickly to rectify matters. What is worse, these cases of inefficiency betray indifference and a thriftless attitude to resources. Why spend money on the minor repair of a plow, say, if you can buy two new ones? And if four appear instead of two -- they will come in handy. But resources, as you know, require careful management. However, the principle of taking what you are offered -- a consequence of the mechanism of spend thrift management that became established in our economy -- is being overcome only with difficulty.

True, economic methods of management, economic accountability, and the collective contract are now destroying the fixed stereotypes from within, as it were, but the practice of planning based on past achievements has not thus far enabled us to smash them completely. It is no accident two types of managers have developed. On the one hand, there is the perspiration-soaked pacesetter, who in a desperate attempt to meet his clearly excessive targets gathers resources from wherever they are available. On the other, there is the leader who does not even make use of what he has and who has no qualms even about falling behind, since the apathetic way he works has virtually no effect upon his material well-being.

If you analyze the results of work in the first 3 months of the year, you cannot fail to see that despite the overall quite good increases in production of meat and milk almost one-third of kolkhozes and sovkhozes did not meet their targets. It turns out that all the increases are still due to the pacesetter. But he still comes off the loser at times, for it is increasingly difficult for him to overfulfill the plan and consequently obtain the substantial bonuses pegged to output.

The method of normative-resources planning introduced as of this year was designed to end this practice. The essence of it is that targets are to be set in light of the economic evaluation of the land (in terms of its productivity) and the funds and manpower. The USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee recently published normative documents on this matter. If you read the recommendations carefully everything would appear to be correct. Rayons and farms where the resources potential is not being properly used are now to be given targets corresponding to their potential. They are required to achieve a large output increase in terms of value. This is fair: If you have the resources, you should work and give a good return.

But as soon as you make the transition from value indicators to physical ones, questions arise. Not trusting my own calculations, I will cite the opinion of V. Lupach, deputy chairman of the Grodno Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee:

"The final stage of determining rayons' procurements in terms of physical indicators nullifies all the work of calculating resources potential. The problem is that emphasis here is placed on the level of output sold achieved over the last 5 years. Rayons where it is low come out best. The whole point of the normative-resources method -- whose goal is to level out opportunities in the use of existing production potential -- is thus lost.

The normative wages fund is also calculated in exactly the same way on the basis of the last 5 years. The recommendations do not envisage changes in the assessment of price-fixing factors when farms change their specialization. There are as yet no normatives at all in existence to determine the amount of capital investments and supplies of basic kinds of resources.

Thus it appears that while the aim was to form up the oblasts, rayons, and farms on the same starting line based on actual potential, they have landed up with the notorious planning method based on past achievements. The pacesetter is still being relied on. This is scarcely any wonder. Pressuring those who perform poorly is risky. Here, after all, agro-industrial committees will have to change their own work style -- not pulling out all the services from laggard farms, say, until work has been put right. The pacesetter, on the other hand, will pull through somehow. To ensure that everyone be guaranteed to "perform" as best he can and that no one display undue initiative or take comfort in hopes of increased independence there is the tried and tested method of fixing everything in advance from above.

That is why time and again now farm agronomists are going out into the spring fields for whom it has been deliberately predetermined where, what, and how much is to be sown and even when it is to be sown. There is one comfort: It has been calculated according to the resource potential. But what sort of calculation is it? Practice makes perfect, one might say, but this, you know, is a serious matter. For the first time perhaps an attempt has been made to place agricultural production planning on a reliable normative footing and open up the way to true economic accountability and work based on self-capitalization, and self-financing. This extremely necessary and important matter should not be allowed to come unstuck: This is not a case where the haste with which the recommendations were prepared can be used as an excuse.

3 SATELLITES LAUNCHED BY ONE ROCKET 24 APR

LD250738 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0700 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 April, (TASS) -- On 24 April 1987 three artificial Earth satellites, Cosmos-1838, Cosmos-1839, and Cosmos 1840, were launched in the Soviet Union. All three satellites were put into orbit by one carrier rocket.

The satellite carries scientific apparatus for continuing space research.

All three satellites are moving in orbits having the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution: 5 hours, twelve minutes;
-- apogee: 17 thousand, 550 kilometers;
-- perigee: 213 kilometers;
-- orbital inclination: 64.7 degrees.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally. The coordinating and computing center is processing the incoming information.

LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1841 SATELLITE REPORTED

LD250737 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0645 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 April (TASS) -- An artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1841, was launched on a Soyuz rocket carrier in the Soviet Union on 24 April 1987.

The satellite carries scientific apparatus for continuing space research into space materials science, begun in 1985-86 on the automatic satellites Cosmos-1645 and Cosmos-1744.

The flight schedule, designed for 14 days, envisages the conduct of experiments in obtaining semiconductor materials with improved properties and particularly pure biological preparations under conditions of microgravitation.

Upon completion of the schedule of research that has been started, the test samples will be delivered to earth.

The satellite has been put into orbit with the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution: 90.5 minutes;
-- apogee: 403 kilometers
-- perigee: 225 kilometers;
-- orbital inclination: 62.8 degrees.

The apparatus on the satellite is working normally. The coordinating and computer center is processing the incoming data.

COSMOS-1842 LAUNCHED 27 APR FUNCTIONING 'NORMALLY'

LD270926 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0916 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 27 Apr (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1942, designed to continue space research, was launched in the USSR today.

It has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution 97.8 mins;
-- apogee 678 km;
-- perigee 648 km;
-- orbital inclination 92.5 deg.

Its apparatus is working normally.

COSMONAUTS PREPARE SOLAR BATTERY ASSEMBLY

LD270957 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 27 Tass -- A TASS correspondent reports from the flight control centre:

The orbital mission of Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin is going on. In the past few days the cosmonauts were primarily engaged in unloading the space ferry Progress-29. They place the ferried equipment at the premises of the main unit and the astrophysical module.

The flight programme of the Mir orbital station provides for boosting the capacity of its power supply system by installing another solar battery. The battery consisting of two sections is brought by the Kvant module to the manned complex.

Preparations for assembly work in outer space starts today. The cosmonauts will check equipment necessary for a space walk, spacesuits [as received] and will specify the order of operations to be performed on the outer surface of the station.

Two space walks to assemble the solar battery are planned to be made early in May.

SPACE TRAINING COMMANDER ON SOVIET-SYRIAN FLIGHT

LD242118 Moscow TASS in English 0837 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- A mere three months remain before a Soviet-Syrian crew is due to blast off from the Baykonur launching facility aboard a Soviet spacecraft. The training for the planned visit to the Mir station entered its final phase. The preliminary date for the flight is July 22.

"A few days ago a delegation of experts from Syria visited Zvezdiy Gorodok to discuss and finalize the details of the concluding phase of preparations," Lieut. Gen. (Air Force) Vladimir Shatalov, commander of the Cosmonaut Training Center, told a press correspondent.

"We discussed preparatory work for the flight, the crew's operations aboard the orbiter and the post-flight stage. The members of the Syrian working group accompanied by Glavcosmos officials and members of the Intercosmos Council met with both crews which are training at the center. Mohammed Faris, Munir Habib, and their Soviet partners have passed virtually all exams and tests."

"Individual equipment and gear for both crews is being prepared -- custom-built armchairs, space-flight suits and flight garments," Vladimir Shatalov said.

"In May the candidates for the flight will undergo an allround medical check-up. Then will come the turn of final comprehensive training during which the crews will drill all planned operations: lift-off, docking with 'Mir', passage into and work aboard the orbiter, undocking and landing. We have no doubt that by the end of July the crews will be ready for the space mission," the commander of the space training center emphasized.

RESEARCHERS DEVELOP MORE POWERFUL LASERS

LD231842 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Soviet experts have developed lasers with a power output twice that of the known foreign analogs that need the same amount of energy to make them work.

The new lasers have been developed by a group of experts at the Institute of General Physics under the USSR Academy of Sciences. Higher power outputs have been made possible by the use of a new variety of garnet crystals as one of the main laser components. A TASS correspondent was told by the researchers that one of the main obstacles holding back wide-scale use of lasers is their low efficiency. The power output of a laser is still much lower than the amount of energy needed to generate a laser beam.

Laser technology is to travel a long road in its development and the latest achievement of Soviet physicists is a step forward along it.

"The efficiency of the new devices is 7 per cent when light is emitted in a steady beam, and 3.5 per cent when light is emitted in pulses," Professor Ivan Shcherbakov, head of a research division at the institute of general physics, told the TASS correspondent. "The foreign analogs we know of have an efficiency of 2 to 5 and 1 per cent respectively. The new lasers can operate with a high frequency of pulse repetition. They open up new opportunities in the machining of various materials and can be applied in scientific research," Professor Shcherbakov said.

SLOW INTRODUCTION OF INVENTIONS CRITICIZED

OW251034 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0605 GMT on 13 April carries the 30-minute "Invented in the USSR" program presented by Yuriy Mironov. He begins by expressing pride in inventions made in the USSR, such as hydrofoil ships, and emphasizes the importance of inventors' work. He says that inventors meet with great difficulties, however, particularly in trying to introduce their work into practice, and says that these difficulties slow down "this important, intellectual element of acceleration."

Video shows designer of space ships Ivanovskiy demonstrating self-deploying antenna, then cuts to shots of an 1986 exhibition of inventions that were not introduced into practice. [paragraph continues]

Yu. S. Polinov, USSR merited inventor, who developed the satellite antenna and several other inventions based on similar principles, demonstrates these inventions and says that some applications for USSR Inventor's Certificates were rejected by the USSR State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries. He shows the blueprint of an invention, that of a multilayer pipe of increased rigidity, and says: "This, by the way, was our first invention of 1959, but it was not introduced into practice until now, although the Canadians patented a similar invention in the United States only in 1969, and they have widely introduced it." He adds: "When we lodged an application for an Inventor's Certificate, it was rejected. Only after 8 years, when all these things had appeared in the United States, and the Canadian De Havilland Aircraft Company had begun developing elements of space objects and patenting them in the United States, only then did the State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries grant a backdated Inventor's Certificate on this antenna mastfoot. The Canadian company is using it successfully. This is an example of the attitude toward such inventions." He then discusses the ownership of inventions: "Here an invention does not belong to its inventor, and he has no right whatsoever to introduce it into industry; the right belongs to the state. This means it belongs to nobody."

Answering Mironov's question about whether, in Polinov's opinion, an invention must belong to its inventor, Polinov tells about his research into the history of inventors' rights in the USSR and demonstrates their gradual degradation. He says that, according to the first Soviet law developed in Lenin's time, nonintroduction of an invention by an official was considered "robbery and plunder" and was punishable by imprisonment. He also says that rewards for inventors used to be much higher than they are now. To prove his point, he quotes several laws and says that the state, not being a corporate body, cannot be made responsible for introduction of an invention into practice, yet it is the legal owner of it. He continues that a corporate body, and not the state, must be responsible -- a director, a minister, etc. He says: "But this is not the thing that is most annoying. Our inventions do not produce national income here, but abroad they are immediately used, slightly elaborated, and patented, and they bring colossal profits."

He cites several other examples of nonintroduced inventions. Three other inventors talk about their nonintroduced inventions, and Mironov mentions several other inventions patented abroad, but not introduced in the USSR. Polinov says that introduction into practice of the named inventions would bring gains of tens, even hundreds of millions of roubles, but to move properly in this direction, a small laboratory must be organized in order to work specifically on introduction of certain inventions into practice. Mironov reveals that the above conversation with Polinov was recorded a year ago at the exhibition on nonintroduced inventions. He says none of the discussed inventions have been introduced into practice to date, despite efforts by inventors. He adds that one of the inventors ended up being pressured into resigning from the plant where he worked, while another was demoted and given another assignment. Mironov notes that the issue of the establishment of small laboratories was not decided because the four needed specialists could not be hired in Moscow, and adds: "Some positive trends have become noticeable now, but, frankly speaking, I would rather not put them off by talking about them. The picture we have here, and with all inventions, is not too promising; only some inventions have some miniscule changes, and the nature of these changes does not correspond to the rates of acceleration and restructuring, and to present-day demands. And everything connected with work on the Law on Inventions is far away, monstrously far away, from restructuring and its high aims." He continues: "Work on the law has been going on for more than 6 years. If we want to achieve some serious changes, some progress in our sphere of the struggle with the old, and things that are obsolete, we must give the inventors' activity a solid and fair legal basis."